6-Mercaptopurine (Purinethol®)

- PURINETHOL is a purine analogue of adenine and hypoxanthine, and is used in the treatment of certain types of leukemias.

**Important Precautions**

- Women should not become pregnant or breastfeed while taking 6-mercaptopurine. 6-Mercaptopurine may be harmful to the unborn child. Two forms of effective contraception must be used while taking 6-mercaptopurine.
- If sexually active with a partner that is pregnant or who may become pregnant during and 1 month after treatment, two forms of contraception must be used (a condom and another effective form of birth control)

**Potential Drug-Drug Interactions**

Some examples of products that interact with 6-mercaptopurine include:

- Olsalazine (Dipentum®)
- Sulfasalazine (Azalfidine®)
- Mesalamine (Asacol®, Canasa®)

**Side Effect Summary**

Below are the most common side effects:

- Fatigue/Weakness
- Nausea/vomiting
- Myelosuppression
- Liver Dysfunction