

Azithromycin

565
03-Mar-2020

● INDICATIONS AND DOSE

Prevention of secondary case of invasive group A streptococcal infection in patients who are allergic to penicillin

- ▶ BY MOUTH
- ▶ Child 6 months–11 years: 12 mg/kg once daily (max. per dose 500 mg) for 5 days
- ▶ Child 12–17 years: 500 mg once daily for 5 days
- ▶ Adult: 500 mg once daily for 5 days

Respiratory-tract infections, otitis media, skin and soft-tissue infections

- ▶ BY MOUTH
- ▶ Child 6 months–17 years: 10 mg/kg once daily (max. per dose 500 mg) for 3 days
- ▶ Child 6 months–17 years (body-weight 15–25 kg): 200 mg once daily for 3 days
- ▶ Child 6 months–17 years (body-weight 26–35 kg): 300 mg once daily for 3 days
- ▶ Child 6 months–17 years (body-weight 36–45 kg): 400 mg once daily for 3 days
- ▶ Child 6 months–17 years (body-weight 46 kg and above): 500 mg once daily for 3 days
- ▶ Adult: 500 mg once daily for 3 days, alternatively initially 500 mg once daily for 1 day, then 250 mg once daily for 4 days

Uncomplicated genital chlamydial infections | Non-gonococcal urethritis

- ▶ BY MOUTH
- ▶ Child 12–17 years: 1 g for 1 dose
- ▶ Adult: 1 g for 1 dose

Uncomplicated gonorrhoea

- ▶ BY MOUTH
- ▶ Adult: 1 g for 1 dose

Lyme disease [erythema migrans and/or non-focal symptoms]

- ▶ BY MOUTH
- ▶ Adult: 500 mg daily for 17 days

Mild to moderate typhoid due to multiple-antibacterial resistant organisms

- ▶ BY MOUTH
- ▶ Adult: 500 mg once daily for 7 days

Community-acquired pneumonia, low to moderate severity

- ▶ BY MOUTH
- ▶ Adult: 500 mg once daily for 3 days, alternatively initially 500 mg once daily for 1 day, then 250 mg once daily for 4 days


Community-acquired pneumonia, high severity

- ▶ INITIALLY BY INTRAVENOUS INFUSION
- ▶ Adult: Initially 500 mg once daily for at least 2 days, then (by mouth) 500 mg once daily for a total duration of 7–10 days

Antibacterial prophylaxis for insertion of intra-uterine device

- ▶ BY MOUTH
- ▶ Adult: 1 g for 1 dose

● UNLICENSED USE

- ▶ In children Not licensed for prevention of group A streptococcal infection;
- ▶ In adults Azithromycin may be used as detailed below, although these situations are considered outside the scope of its licence:
 - prevention of group A streptococcal infection;
 - uncomplicated gonorrhoea;
 - [EvGr] Lyme disease ;
 - mild to moderate typhoid due to multiple-antibacterial resistant organisms;

- community-acquired pneumonia (high severity) when oral treatment continues for more than 3 days.

● INTERACTIONS → Appendix 1: macrolides

● SIDE-EFFECTS

- ▶ Common or very common
- ▶ With oral use Arthralgia
- ▶ Uncommon Numbness · oedema · photosensitivity reaction
- ▶ Frequency not known Acute kidney injury · aggression · akathisia · haemolytic anaemia · syncope

● PREGNANCY

Manufacturers advise use only if adequate alternatives not available.

● BREAST FEEDING

Present in milk; use only if no suitable alternatives.

● HEPATIC IMPAIRMENT

Manufacturer advises caution; consider avoiding in severe impairment (no information available).

● RENAL IMPAIRMENT

- ▶ In adults Use with caution if eGFR less than 10 mL/minute/1.73 m².
- ▶ In children Use with caution if estimated glomerular filtration rate less than 10 mL/minute/1.73 m².

● DIRECTIONS FOR ADMINISTRATION

- ▶ With intravenous use in adults For *intravenous infusion* (Zedbac[®]), give intermittently in Glucose 5% or Sodium Chloride 0.9%. Reconstitute 500 mg with 4.8 mL water for injections to produce a 100 mg/mL solution, then dilute 5 mL of solution with infusion fluid to a final concentration of 1 or 2 mg/mL; give the 1 mg/mL solution over 3 hours or give the 2 mg/mL solution over 1 hour.

● PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION

See Lyme disease p. 611 for place in therapy and further information on treatment. Flavours of oral liquid formulations may include cherry or banana.

● PATIENT AND CARER ADVICE

Medicines for Children leaflet: Azithromycin for bacterial infections www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/azithromycin-bacterial-infections-0

● PROFESSION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Dental practitioners' formulary

- ▶ With oral use Azithromycin Capsules may be prescribed. Azithromycin Tablets may be prescribed. Azithromycin Oral Suspension 200 mg/5 mL may be prescribed.

● EXCEPTIONS TO LEGAL CATEGORY

- ▶ With oral use Azithromycin tablets can be sold to the public for the treatment of confirmed, asymptomatic *Chlamydia trachomatis* genital infection in those over 16 years of age, and for the epidemiological treatment of their sexual partners, subject to maximum single dose of 1 g, maximum daily dose 1 g, and a pack size of 1 g.

● MEDICINAL FORMS

There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug. Forms available from special-order manufacturers include: oral suspension

Tablet

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 5, 9

▶ Azithromycin (Non-proprietary)

Azithromycin 250 mg Azithromycin 250mg tablets | 4 tablet [PoM] £10.11 DT = £1.29 | 6 tablet [PoM] £1.94-£2.67

Azithromycin 500 mg Azithromycin 500mg tablets | 3 tablet [PoM] £9.80 DT = £1.29

Oral suspension

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 5, 9

▶ Azithromycin (Non-proprietary)

Azithromycin 40 mg per 1 ml Azithromycin 200mg/5ml oral suspension | 15 ml [PoM] £6.18 DT = £4.06 | 30 ml [PoM] £11.04 DT = £11.04

▶ Zithromax (Pfizer Ltd)

Azithromycin 40 mg per 1 ml Zithromax 200mg/5ml oral suspension | 15 ml [PoM] £4.06 DT = £4.06 | 22.5 ml [PoM] £6.10 DT = £6.10 | 30 ml [PoM] £11.04 DT = £11.04