

- Caution when taken with allopurinol (significant dose reduction required).
- If gradual withdrawal of dose is required it should be done under supervision.
- Protect from light.

Renal impairment: Dose is modified according to creatinine clearance.

Cl_{cr} 10–50 mL/min, use 75% of usual dose.

Cl_{cr} <10 mL/min, use 50% of usual dose.

Pregnancy: D. Use with caution if no alternative, with maternal monitoring to reduce risk of immunosuppression in newborn.

Breastfeeding: Use not recommended. Small amounts excreted into breast milk. Potential for adverse effects in infants.

Common dosage range

Adult and paediatric doses

Organ transplantation: IV/oral, initially up to 5 mg/kg daily.

Maintenance: 1–4 mg/kg daily.

Auto-immune disorders: Oral, 1 mg/kg daily, increasing over several weeks to a maximum of 2.5 mg/kg daily.

Maintenance, adults: 50–150 mg daily.

azelastine

nasal antihistamine

Notes

- Azelastine is suitable for chronic use.
- Prime pump before dose delivery.
- Keep head up during dose delivery.
- Discard 6 months after opening.
- See 'Nasal instillations' in 'General formulary', Section A, for instructions on use.

Renal impairment: Caution. Drug is absorbed through nasal mucosa.

Pregnancy: B3. Use not recommended.

Breastfeeding: Use not recommended as limited data available.

Common dosage range

Adult dose

1 spray (0.14 mg) into each nostril twice daily.

Paediatric dose

Children >5 years, 1 spray (0.14 mg) into each nostril twice daily.

azithromycin

macrolide antibacterial

Cautionary advisory labels: D (multiple dosing)

Notes

- Confirm appropriate antibiotic and dose regimen.
- Inquire about any serious allergic reaction to macrolide antibiotics.
- May cause nausea, diarrhoea or gastric upset.
- Avoid in combination with aluminium- and magnesium-containing antacids.

Hepatic impairment (severe): Caution.

Renal impairment (severe): Caution.

Pregnancy: B1. Use not recommended in first trimester. When other regimens not tolerated, appears safe to use in second and third trimesters.

Breastfeeding: Use with caution as limited data available. Single 1 g doses likely to be safe. Monitor for adverse effects (e.g. diarrhoea, thrush) in infant.

Common dosage range

Adult dose

Sexually transmitted chlamydia infections: 1 g single dose.

Other indications: 500 mg daily for three days or 500 mg on day one and 250 mg daily for four days.

Paediatric dose

Streptococcal pharyngitis and tonsillitis: 10–20 mg/kg once daily for three days (maximum 500 mg).

Chlamydial conjunctivitis and trachoma: 20 mg/kg as a single dose or once weekly for up to three weeks.

baclofen

muscle relaxant

Cautionary advisory labels: 1, 9, B

Notes

- Treatment generally commenced in hospital at low dose and gradually increased.

Renal impairment: Caution. Dosage adjustment necessary. Reduce dose to 5 mg daily.

Pregnancy: B3. Use not recommended.

Breastfeeding: Use with caution. Small amounts (~0.1% of maternal dose) excreted in breast milk. Monitor for adverse effects in infant.

Common dosage range

Adult dose

15 mg daily in divided doses, increasing to 30–75 mg daily (maximum 100 mg daily).