

Black Box Warning: Pregnancy/breast-feeding: for pregnancy 2nd/3rd trimester; can cause fetal death; avoid breastfeeding

- Response and adverse reactions especially in renal disease
- **HF:** Daily weight, for fluid overload, dyspnea, jugular venous distension, edema, crackles
- Renal function studies; BUN, creatinine, electrolytes (potassium)
- B/P, pulse when beginning therapy and periodically thereafter; note rhythm, rate, quality; obtain electrolytes before beginning therapy

Evaluate:

- Therapeutic response: decreased B/P

Teach patient/family:

- To comply with dosage schedule even if feeling better

Black Box Warning: To notify provider if pregnancy is planned or suspected

- That diarrhea, dehydration, excessive perspiration, vomiting may lead to fall in B/P; to consult prescriber if these occur
- To rise slowly from lying or sitting to minimize orthostatic hypotension; that product may cause dizziness
- To avoid OTC medications unless approved by prescriber; to inform all health care providers of product use
- To use proper technique for obtaining B/P

azithromycin (Rx)

(ay-zi-thro-my'sin)

AzaSite, Zithromax, Zmax

Func. class.: Antiinfective

Chem. class.: Macrolide

Do not confuse:

azithromycin/erythromycin

Zithromax/Zinacef

ACTION: Binds to 50S ribosomal subunits of susceptible bacteria and suppresses protein synthesis; much greater spectrum of activity than erythromycin;

more effective against gram-negative organisms

USES: Mild to moderate infections of the upper respiratory tract, lower respiratory tract; uncomplicated skin and skin structure infections caused by *Bacillus anthracis*, *Bacteroides bivius*, *Bordetella pertussis*, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, *Campylobacter jejuni*, *CDC coryneform group G*, *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Chlamydophila pneumoniae*, *Clostridium perfringens*, *Gardnerella vaginalis*, *Haemophilus ducreyi*, *Influenzae* (beta-lactamase negative/positive), *Helicobacter pylori*, *Klebsiella granulomatis*, *Legionella pneumophila*, *Moraxella catarrhalis*, *Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare*, *Mycoplasma genitalium/hominis/pneumoniae*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *Peptostreptococcus* sp., *Prevotella bivia*, *Rickettsia tsutsugamushi*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Staphylococcus aureus* (MSSA)/epidermidis, *Streptococcus* sp., *Toxoplasma gondii*, *Treponema pallidum*, *Ureaplasma urealyticum*, *Vibrio cholerae*, *Viridans streptococci*; **PO:** acute pharyngitis/tonsillitis (group A streptococcal); acute skin/soft-tissue infections; community-acquired pneumonia; **Ophthalmic:** bacterial conjunctivitis

Unlabeled uses: Babesiosis, cholera, cystic fibrosis, dental abscess/infection, endocarditis prophylaxis, granuloma inguinale, Legionnaire's disease, Lyme disease, lymphogranuloma venereum, MAC, periodontitis, pertussis, prostatitis, shigellosis, syphilis, toxoplasmosis, typhoid fever

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Hypersensitivity to azithromycin, erythromycin, any macrolide, hepatitis, jaundice

Precautions: Pregnancy, breastfeeding; geriatric patients; renal/hepatic/cardiac disease; <6 mo for otitis media; <2 yr for pharyngitis, tonsillitis, QT prolongation, ulcerative colitis, torsades de pointes, sunlight exposure, sodium restriction, myasthenia gravis, pseudomembranous colitis, contact lenses, hypokalemia, hypomagnesemia