



BC Centre for Disease Control
An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

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Clinical Prevention Services –
STI Control:

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Azithromycin

Azithromycin is an antibiotic taken by mouth for the treatment of certain sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Allergies

- Tell your health care provider if you have an allergy to any macrolide antibiotic such as azithromycin (Z-pak[®], Zithromax[®]), erythromycin, or clarithromycin (Biaxin[®]).

Pregnancy and Chest/Breastfeeding

- Azithromycin may be used with caution during pregnancy and chest/breastfeeding. Please consult your healthcare provider.

CAUTION

- **Do not take antacids that contain aluminum and/or magnesium** at the same time as azithromycin. Space them at least two hours apart.
- **Please notify your healthcare provider if you have any pre-existing heart conditions, arrhythmia or electrolyte disturbances (eg. bradycardia, QT prolongation, hypokalemia, hypomagnesaemia)**
- **Do not take the following medication(s) while taking azithromycin:**
 - **Antipsychotics:** pimozone (Orap[®]), ziprasidone (Zeldox[®])
 - **Antiviral:** saquinavir (Invirase[®])
 - **Heart:** dronedarone (Multaq[®])
 - **Migraine:** dihydroergotamine (Migranal[®])
- **Drug Interactions:** Please note that individual drug interactions are no longer listed in this document. If you are taking any prescription, non-prescription, herbal, or recreational products, please discuss with your healthcare provider

Side Effects

- You may experience diarrhea, nausea, abdominal pain, or vomiting.

Instructions for Taking

- Azithromycin may be taken with or without food.
- Follow dosage instructions from your healthcare provider.

Last Reviewed by BCCDC Pharmacy January 2022

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Storage Instructions

- Store at room temperature between 15 to 30°C.
- Protect from light, heat, and moisture.
- Do not use medications beyond the printed expiry date.
- Keep away from the reach of children.

Special Instructions

- Do not have sex until:
 - One week after you have completed your treatment; or as advised by your healthcare provider, and
 - After your sex partner(s) have also been treated and 1 week has passed since the start of their treatment, even if their test results are negative.
- You will need retreatment if you have sex with an untreated partner, or if you have sex before either you or your partner's treatment is complete. Please discuss with your healthcare provider.

If you have any questions or need further information, please visit <http://www.smartsexresource.com> or contact your healthcare provider.