

PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER

AMOXICILLIN 250 mg CAPSULES
AMOXICILLIN 500 mg CAPSULES
Amoxicillin

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further queries, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet:

1. What this medicine is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take this medicine
3. How to take this medicine
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store this medicine
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What this medicine is and what it is used for**What Amoxicillin is**

Amoxicillin is an antibiotic. The active ingredient is amoxicillin. This belongs to a group of medicines called 'penicillins'.

What Amoxicillin is used for

Amoxicillin is used to treat infections caused by bacteria in different parts of the body. Amoxicillin may also be used in combination with other medicines to treat stomach ulcers.

2. What you need to know before you take this medicine**Do not take this medicine:**

- if you are allergic to amoxicillin, penicillin or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).

- if you have ever had an allergic reaction to any antibiotic. This can include a skin rash or swelling of the face or throat.

Do not take Amoxicillin if any of the above apply. If you are not sure, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Amoxicillin.

Warnings and Precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking this medicine if you:

- have glandular fever (fever, sore throat, swollen glands and extreme tiredness)
- have kidney problems
- are not urinating regularly.

If you are not sure if any of the above apply to you, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Amoxicillin.

Conditions you need to look out for

Amoxicillin can make some existing conditions worse, or cause serious side effects, such as severe allergic reactions, chest pain, serious skin reactions repetitive vomiting within 1 to 4 hours of Amoxicillin administration or severe diarrhoea (pseudomembranous colitis). You must look out for certain symptoms while you are receiving Amoxicillin to help reduce the risk of any problems (see section 4).

Blood and urine tests

If you are having:

- Urine tests (glucose) or blood tests for liver function
- Oestriol tests (used during pregnancy to check the baby is developing normally)

Tell your doctor or pharmacist that you are taking Amoxicillin. This is because Amoxicillin can affect the results of these tests.

Other medicines and Amoxicillin

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

- If you are taking allopurinol (used for gout) with Amoxicillin, it may be more likely that you will have an allergic skin reaction.
- Probenecid (used to treat gout), concomitant use of probenecid may reduce the excretion of amoxicillin and is not recommended.
- If you are taking medicines to help stop blood clots (such as warfarin), you may need extra blood tests.

- If you are taking other antibiotics (such as tetracycline) Amoxicillin may be less effective.
- Methotrexate (used to treat cancer and severe psoriasis), penicillins may reduce the excretion of methotrexate causing a potential increase in side effects.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Driving and using machines

Amoxicillin can have side effects and the symptoms (such as allergic reactions, dizziness and convulsions) may make you unfit to drive. Do not drive or operate machinery unless you are feeling well.

3. How to take this medicine

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

- Swallow with water without opening capsule.
- If you cannot swallow the capsule, tell your doctor and he or she may prescribe another presentation that is more appropriate for you. Capsules are not suitable for patients who cannot swallow capsules due to the risk of choking. Other presentations are available, depending on the dosage, including oral formulations that can be used especially in patients who cannot swallow capsules.
- Space the doses evenly during the day, at least 4 hours apart.

The usual dose is:

Children weighing less than 40 kg

All doses are worked out depending on the child's body weight in kilograms.

- Your doctor will advise you how much Amoxicillin you should give to your baby or child.
- The usual dose is 40 mg to 90 mg for each kilogram of body weight a day, given in two or three divided doses.
- The maximum recommended dose is 100 mg for each kilogram of body weight a day.

Adults, elderly patients and children weighing 40 kg or more

The usual dose of Amoxicillin is 250 mg to 500 mg three times a day or

750 mg to 1 g every 12 hours, depending on the severity and type of infection.

- **Severe infections:** 750 mg to 1 g three times a day.
- **Urinary tract infection:** 3 g twice daily for one day.
- **Lyme disease (an infection spread by parasites called ticks):** Isolated erythema migrans (early stage – red or pink circular rash): 4 g a day, Systemic manifestations (late stage – for more serious symptoms or when the disease spreads around your body): up to 6 g a day.
- **Stomach ulcers:** one 750 mg or one 1 g dose twice a day for 7 days with other antibiotics and medicines to treat stomach ulcers.
- **To prevent heart infection during surgery:** the dose will vary according to the type of surgery. Other medicines may also be given at the same time. Your doctor, pharmacist or nurse can give you more details.
- The maximum recommended dose is 6 g per day.

Kidney problems

If you have kidney problems the dose might be lower than the usual dose.

If you take more Amoxicillin than you should

If you have taken too much Amoxicillin, signs might be an upset stomach (feeling sick, being sick or diarrhoea) or crystals in the urine, which may be seen as cloudy urine, or problems urinating. Talk to your doctor as soon as possible. Take the medicine to show the doctor.

If you forget to take Amoxicillin

- If you forget to take a dose, take it as soon as you remember.
- Do not take the next dose too soon, wait about 4 hours before taking the next dose.
- Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

How long should you take Amoxicillin for?

- Keep taking Amoxicillin for as long as your doctor has told you to, even if you feel better. You need every dose to help fight the infection. If some bacteria survive they can cause the infection to come back.
- Once you finish treatment, if you still feel unwell you should go back to see the doctor.

Thrush (a yeast infection of moist areas of the body which can cause soreness, itching and white discharge) may develop if Amoxicillin is used for a long time. If this occurs tell your doctor.

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If you take Amoxicillin for a long time, your doctor may perform additional tests to check your kidneys, liver and blood are working normally.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Stop taking Amoxicillin and see a doctor straight away, if you notice any of the following serious side effects – you may need urgent medical treatment:

The following are very rare (may affect up to 1 in 10,000 people)

- allergic reaction, the signs include: skin rash or itching, swelling of the face, lips, tongue, body or breathing difficulties. These can be serious and occasionally deaths have occurred
- chest pain which can be a sign of a potentially serious allergic reaction called Kounis syndrome
- repetitive vomiting (1 to 4 hours after Amoxicillin administration), stomach pain, abnormal drowsiness, diarrhoea and low blood pressure which can be a sign of a serious allergic reaction called drug induced enterocolitis syndrome
- a red rash commonly seen on both sides of buttocks, upper inner thighs, armpits, neck [Symmetrical Drug-Related Intertriginous and Flexural Exanthema (SDRIFE)]
- rash or pinpoint flat red round spots under the skin surface or bruising of the skin. This is due to inflammation of blood vessel walls due to an allergic reaction. It can be associated with joint pain (arthritis) and kidney problems
- a delayed allergic reaction can occur usually 7 to 12 days after having Amoxicillin, some signs include: rashes, fever, joint pains and enlargement of the lymph nodes especially under the arms
- a skin reaction known as ‘erythema multiforme’ where you may develop: itchy reddish purple patches on the skin especially on the palms of the hands or soles of the feet, ‘hive-like’ raised swollen areas on the skin, tender areas on the surfaces of the mouth, eyes and genitals. You may have a fever and be very tired
- other severe skin reactions can include: changes in skin colour, bumps under the skin, blistering, pustules, peeling, redness, pain, itching, scaling. These may be associated with fever, headaches and body aches

- flu-like symptoms with a rash, fever, swollen glands, and abnormal blood test results (including increased white blood cells (eosinophilia) and liver enzymes) (Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS)).
- fever, chills, a sore throat or other signs of an infection, or if you bruise easily. These may be signs of a problem with your blood cells
- the *Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction* which occurs during treatment with Amoxicillin for Lyme disease and causes fever, chills, headache, muscle pain and skin rash.
- inflammation of the large bowel (colon) with diarrhoea (sometimes containing blood), pain and fever
- serious liver side effects may occur. They are mainly associated with people having treatment over a long period, males and the elderly. You must tell your doctor urgently if you get:
 - severe diarrhoea with bleeding
 - blisters, redness or bruising of the skin
 - darker urine or paler stools
 - yellowing of the skin or the whites of the eyes (jaundice). See also anaemia below which might result in jaundice.

These can happen when having the medicine or for up to several weeks after.

If any of the above happen stop taking the medicine and see your doctor straight away. Sometimes you may get less severe skin reactions such as:

- a mildly itchy rash (round, pink-red patches), ‘hive-like’ swollen areas on forearms, legs, palms, hands or feet. This is uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people).

If you have any of these talk to your doctor as Amoxicillin will need to be stopped.

The other possible side effects are:

Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- skin rash
- feeling sick (nausea)
- diarrhoea.

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)

- being sick (vomiting).

Very rare (may affect up to 1 in 10,000 people)

- thrush (a yeast infection of the vagina, mouth or skin folds), you can get treatment for thrush from your doctor or pharmacist
- kidney problems
- fits (convulsions), seen in patients on high doses or with kidney problems
- dizziness
- hyperactivity
- the tongue may change to yellow, brown or black and it may have a hairy appearance
- an excessive breakdown of red blood cells causing a type of anaemia. Signs include: tiredness, headaches, shortness of breath, dizziness, looking pale and yellowing of the skin and the whites of the eyes
- low number of white blood cells
- low number of cells involved with blood clotting
- the blood may take longer to clot than it normally would. You may notice this if you have a nosebleed or cut yourself.
- inflammation of the protective membrane surrounding the brain (aseptic meningitis)
- rash with blisters arranged in a circle with central crusting or like a string of pearls (linear IgA disease)
- crystals in the urine, which may be seen as cloudy urine, or difficulty or discomfort in passing urine. Make sure you drink plenty of fluids to reduce the chance of these symptoms.

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme Website: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store this medicine

- Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Store in a dry place below 25°C.
- Do not use this medicine if there are visible signs of deterioration.
- Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste.

Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Amoxicillin Capsules contain

- The active substance in each capsule is 250 mg or 500 mg amoxicillin.
- The other ingredient of the powder is magnesium stearate.
- The capsule shell for both strengths contains gelatin, Iron oxide red (E172), Iron oxide yellow (E 172), Iron oxide black (E 172), titanium dioxide (E171).

What Amoxicillin Capsules look like and contents of the pack

- Amoxicillin 250mg Capsules -Red/buff coloured, hard gelatin capsule containing a white to off white powder. Printed with ‘‘AMOXY 250’’.
- Amoxicillin 500mg Capsules -Red/buff coloured, hard gelatin capsule containing a white to off white powder. Printed with ‘‘AMOXY 500’’.
- Amoxicillin Capsules are available in packs containing 21, 100, 250, 500 and 1000 capsules.
- Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

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