



IMPORTANT and PRIVATE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR HEALTH PLEASE READ THIS VERY CAREFULLY

DIRECTIONS FOR TAKING AZITHROMYCIN

Your sex partner has recently been treated for *chlamydia*.

Chlamydia is a curable sexually transmitted disease (STD) that you can get from having sex with a person who already has it. Many people with *chlamydia* do not know they have it because they have no symptoms and feel fine.

-Men may notice a discharge (drip) from their penis, pain or discomfort when urinating (peeing), or pain and swelling in their testicles.

-Women may notice a change in their usual vaginal discharge, pain during sex, bleeding between periods or after sex, lower belly or pelvic pain or cramps, or pain when urinating (peeing). Women can become infertile (unable to have children) if they don't get treated.

Whether or not you are having any of these symptoms at this time; you could have *chlamydia*. It is important that you take the azithromycin to prevent you from getting sick. Also, you can re-infect your partner if you have unprotected sex before you are cured of the infection.

After you take the medicine it is best for you to see your own doctor or medical care provider for an STD exam, counseling, and, possibly, to get tested for other sexually transmitted diseases. If you do not have a medical provider, or if you are uninsured, you can receive free care at the Department of Health (call the closest office to find out when you can be seen).

Before you take the medicine, please read the following:

Azithromycin is very safe antibiotic. However, **DO NOT TAKE IT if any of the following are true:**

- You are female and having lower belly pain, pain during sex, vomiting, or fever.
- You are pregnant.
- You are male and having pain or swelling in the testicles (balls) with or without fever.
- You ever had a bad reaction, hives (a kind of rash), or allergy to the following antibiotics: azithromycin ("Zithromax"), erythromycin, or clarithromycin ("Biaxin").

- You have a serious long-term illness like kidney, heart or liver disease.
- You are currently taking another prescription medication.

If any of these circumstances exist, you should talk to your healthcare provider as soon as possible.

Some people may get a mild upset stomach or diarrhea after taking azithromycin. These won't last long, if they do, contact your healthcare provider.

If you experience any other side effects or an allergic reaction (rash, itching, swelling, dizziness, or trouble breathing), you should call your healthcare provider immediately.

Take both tablets of azithromycin with a glass of water or with food. It is important that you take this medicine as soon as possible to get cured.

Do not share or give this medicine to anyone else.

Do not have sex for the next 7 days. **It takes 7 days for the medicine to cure chlamydia.** If you have unprotected sex during the 7 days after taking the medicine, you could still pass the infection to your sex partners. While condoms are effective, the safest way to make sure you don't pass the infection on to anyone is to not have sex for 7 days.

If you have any questions about azithromycin or *chlamydia*, please call:

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| • Albuquerque: Stanford STD Clinic | Phone 505: 841-4180 |
| • Roswell: Public Health DPS | Phone 575: 347-2409 Ext. 6216 |
| • Las Cruces: Dona Ana Public Health | Phone 575: 528-5000 |
| • Farmington: San Juan Public Health | Phone 505: 327-4461 |
| • Santa Fe: Santa Fe Public Health | Phone 505: 476-2600 |

All calls are confidential. **No one will ask for your name.**