

## What is most important to remember?

- Take azithromycin (Zithromax®) at the same times each day, at evenly spaced intervals.
- Take until you finish the medicine, even if you are feeling better
- Do not start any new medicines, over-the-counter drugs or herbal remedies without talking to your doctor
- Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists that you are using azithromycin (Zithromax®)
- This medicine will not treat a viral infection such as the common cold or flu

### If you have questions:

Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist for more information about azithromycin (Zithromax®).

### Strong Internal Medicine



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### Azithromycin (Zithromax®): Important Patient Information





### What does azithromycin (Zithromax®) do?

- Azithromycin is an antibiotic used to stop or treat bacterial infections

### How should azithromycin (Zithromax®) be used?

- Use this medicine as directed by your doctor
- Take at the same time each day. To gain the most benefit, do not miss doses of this medicine
- Take until you finish the medicine, even if you are feeling better
- Take on an empty stomach (at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after a meal)

### Who should know I am taking azithromycin (Zithromax®)?

- Keep a list of all your medicines (prescription, natural products, supplements, vitamins, over-the-counter) and give it to your healthcare provider (doctor, nurse, nurse practitioner, pharmacist, or physician assistant)

### What side effects could occur with azithromycin (Zithromax®)?

- Upset stomach or throwing up
- Diarrhea
- Heartburn or stomach pain
- Headache

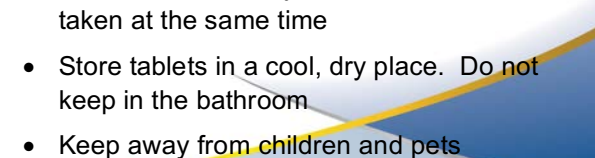
### What should I do if I forget to take azithromycin (Zithromax®)?

- Take the missed dose as soon as you think about it
- If it is almost time for your next dose skip the missed dose and go back to your normal dose time
- Do not take 2 doses at once or extra doses

### Are there any interactions with other drugs that I need to worry about?

- There are many drug interactions that may increase your risk of side effects
- Do not start new prescriptions, over-the-counter medicines, or herbal and dietary supplements without telling your doctor

### What are some things that I need to be aware of when taking azithromycin (Zithromax®)?

- Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are allergic to azithromycin, other medicines, foods, or substances
  - Tell your doctor if you have turned yellow or had liver side effects with this medicine before
  - Before using this medicine, tell your doctor or pharmacist your medical history, especially liver disease, kidney disease, and a certain muscle disease called myasthenia gravis
  - If you have a heart problem called congenital QT syndrome, talk with your doctor. QT prolongation can result in serious, fast or irregular heartbeat and other symptoms such as severe dizziness, or fainting that need medical attention right away
  - Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or are breastfeeding. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks of using this medicine
  - Be sure to ask your doctor or pharmacist if you should use additional reliable birth control methods while using this antibiotic
  - If you take antacids (such as Mylanta, Maalox) take them 2 hours before or 4 hours after you take azithromycin. These antacids can make azithromycin less effective when taken at the same time
  - Store tablets in a cool, dry place. Do not keep in the bathroom
  - Keep away from children and pets
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### If you have any of the following side effects, call your doctor or visit the emergency room immediately:

- A fast, pounding, irregular heartbeat
- Dizziness or fainting
- Severe upset stomach or vomiting
- Very bad stomach pain
- Severe diarrhea (watery or bloody stools)
- Blisters or peeling skin
- If you experience symptoms of a serious allergic reaction including: rash, hives, itching; wheezing or difficulty breathing or swallowing; swelling of face, lips, tongue, or throat
- Yellowing of skin or eyes
- Unusual muscle weakness