



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Clinical Prevention Services
Provincial STI/HIV Clinic

655 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4R4

Tel 604.707.5600
Fax 604.707.5604

www.bccdc.ca
www.SmartSexResource.com

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

- **Drug Interactions:** Tell your healthcare provider if you are taking any prescription, non-prescription, herbal, or recreational products. Not all individual drug interactions are listed in this document.
- **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** e.g. bradycardia, QT prolongation, hypokalemia, hypomagnesaemia
- **Do not take the following medication(s) while taking azithromycin:**
 - **Antipsychotic:** pimozide (Orap[®]), ziprasidone (Zeldox[®])
 - **Heart:** dronedarone (Multaq[®])
 - **Migraine:** dihydroergotamine (Migranal[®]), ergotamine (Cafegot[®])

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.

Azithromycin (cont'd)

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**
 - Your sex partner(s) have also been treated **and** one 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 more information,
please visit www.smartsexresource.com or contact your healthcare provider.