Amoxicillin 250mg Capsules / Amoxicillin 500mg Capsules

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 questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you (or your child) only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them even if their signs of illness 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.

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1. What Amoxicillin Capsules are and what they are 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 Amoxicillin Capsules
Do not take Amoxicillin Capsules:
- if you are hypersensitive (allergic) to amoxicillin, penicillin or other antibiotics such as cephalosporins or any of the ingredients (see section 6) in these capsules.
- 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 capsules if any of the above apply. If you are not sure, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Amoxicillin capsule.

Warnings and Precautions
Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Amoxicillin 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.

Blood and urine test
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 capsule
Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken or might take any other medications including medicines obtained without a prescription.
- If you are taking allopurinol for conditions such as gout, because the risk of allergic skin rashes is increased.
- If you are taking probenecid (used for gout) as this can cause the blood concentrations of amoxicillin to increase.
- If you are taking digoxin, used in heart conditions, as the levels of digoxin in the blood may increase.
- If you are taking warfarin, used to thin the blood and prevent clotting, as it may increase the time it takes for your blood to clot and you may need extra blood tests because of this.
- If you are taking antibiotics including macrolides, tetracycline, chloramphenicol or sulphonamides, as the effect of amoxicillin may be reduced.
- If you are taking methotrexate (used for the treatment of cancer and severe psoriasis) Amoxicillin may cause an increase in side effects

Pregnancy and Breastfeeding:
Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, you think you might be pregnant or planning to become pregnant, also if you are breast-feeding or are planning to breast feed.

Driving and using machines
Amoxicillin capsule 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 Amoxicillin Capsules
Always take Amoxicillin Capsules exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.
- Do not chew the capsules. Swallow the capsules with water without opening capsule
- Space the doses evenly during the day, at least 4 hours apart

The usual oral 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 capsule than you should
If you have taken too much Amoxil, 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 capsule
- 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. 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, Amoxicillin Capsules can cause side effects, although not everyone 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 (hypersensitive) reactions may occur during treatment with amoxicillin but severe allergic reactions are rare. If any of the following happen, stop taking Amoxicillin Capsules and tell your doctor immediately. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation.

• Skin rash, redness or itching. Some sort of skin rash may occur commonly

• Swelling of the face or neck. Mild forms occur commonly but severe forms are rare

• Blistering or peeling of the skin with or without ulceration in the mouth, and sore eyes or genitals can occur rarely

• Joint pain and fever, breathing problems, sweating, rapid heartbeat or loss of consciousness can occur very rarely

• Increases in numbers of white blood cells called eosinophils, drops in numbers of red blood cells causing anaemia, inflammation and damage to blood vessels causing purple spots or blotches in and under the skin and inflammation of the kidney can occur rarely

Other side effects that may occur are:

Common (between 1 in 10 and 1 in 100 patients):

• Skin rash

• Nausea (feeling sick) and diarrhoea

These symptoms are usually mild and disappear either during treatment or very soon after completion of treatment. These symptoms may be reduced by taking the capsules with food.

Uncommon (between 1 in 100 and 1 in 1000 patients):

• Severe skin rash

• Hives

• Vomiting (being sick)

Very rare (between 1 in 1000 patients and 1 in 10,000 patients):

• Kidney problems with symptoms such as blood in urine, increases or decreases in the amount of urine, feeling and being sick

• Yeast infection e.g. thrush

• Black, hairy tongue

• Inflammation of the colon which causes bowel spasms and upper abdominal cramps sometimes with bloody diarrhoea

• Superficial tooth discoloration that can usually be removed by brushing.

• There have been isolated reports of changes in the composition of the blood including decrease in some white blood cells, red blood cells, platelets and crystals of urine in the blood. There have also been isolated reports of prolonged bleeding time and an increase in blood clotting times. The blood changes returned to normal after stopping treatment

• Patients on larger doses of amoxicillin or who have impaired kidney function may experience fits

• Liver problems and jaundice with symptoms of skin or whites of the eyes turning yellowish, urine becoming darker or faeces become very pale

• A rise in liver enzymes found during blood tests, although the significance of this is unclear

• Muscle spasms

• Dizziness

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at: http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Amoxicillin Capsules:

• Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

• Store in the original packaging.

• Do not use after the expiry date shown on the carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

• Do not store above 25 °C.

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the packs and other information

What Amoxicillin Capsules contain:

The active substance in this medicine is called amoxicillin and is present as amoxicillin trihydrate. Amoxicillin 250mg capsules contain 250mg amoxicillin trihydrate and Amoxicillin 500mg capsules contain 500mg amoxicillin trihydrate. The other ingredients are colloidal anhydrous silica and magnesium stearate. The capsule shells contain; gelatin, sunset yellow (E110), carmosine (E122), brilliant blue (E133), tartrazine (E102) and titanium dioxide (E171).

What Amoxicillin Capsules look like and contents of the pack:

Amoxicillin 250 mg and 500 mg Capsules are maroon and yellow capsules which are supplied in blister packs of 3, 6, 12, 15, 21, 50 capsules and pots of 500 capsules (250 mg), 100 capsules (500 mg)

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