

# EPT Azithromycin Information



**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY: THIS IS IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SEXUAL HEALTH**

This sheet contains important information about Azithromycin, also called Zithromax. You were given this medicine, or a prescription for this medicine, because your sex partner was recently treated for chlamydia and/or gonorrhea which means you have likely been exposed to this infection too. The best way to take care of yourself is to see a healthcare professional. If you do see a healthcare professional, bring the medicine/prescription with you. If you are not able to see a healthcare professional, you should read all the information given to you about the medicine before taking it. **If you do not take medicine to cure your STD, you can get very sick and still infect others. If you are pregnant or have other medical concerns, seek medical advice and evaluation before taking the medicine.**

## The medicine should not be taken if:

- You currently have a uterus (womb) and have abdominal or pelvic pain, or other symptoms of pelvic inflammatory disease (PID). PID can be serious and lead to infertility (unable to get pregnant), pregnancy problems or ongoing pelvic pain
- You have a penis and testicles (balls) and have pain or swelling in the testicles or a fever
- You have ever had an allergic reaction (rash, breathing problems or other problems) after taking azithromycin or other antibiotics. People who are allergic to some antibiotics may be allergic to other types. If you do have allergies to antibiotics, you should be seen by your healthcare provider before taking this medicine
- You have a serious long-term illness, such as kidney, heart or liver disease.
- If you are currently taking another prescription medicine, including medicine for diabetes, talk to your pharmacist before taking the medicine to ask about drug interactions.
- ***If any of the above applies to you, or if you are not sure, do not take the medicine. Instead, you should talk to a healthcare professional as soon as possible so they can find the best treatment for you.***

## How to take the medicine:

Take the pills as directed. You can take them with or without food. Taking these pills with food lowers the chance of having an upset stomach. You must take all the pills you were given to be cured. Do NOT take antacids (such as Tums, Roloids, or Maalox) for one hour before or two hours after taking the azithromycin. Do NOT share or give this medicine to anyone else.

## Side effects of the medicine:

Possible side effects include upset stomach, diarrhea, dizziness, and/or vaginal yeast infection. Very few people experience these side effects and they are not serious. If you vomit within 2 hours of taking the medicine, contact your provider.

## Allergic reactions to the medicine:

Allergic reactions are rare. Possible serious allergic reactions include: Difficulty breathing/tightness in the chest, closing of your throat, swollen lips or tongue, and/or hives. If you experience any of these, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room immediately!

## Warnings:

You must take all this medicine to cure your infection. Do not have sex (penile, vaginal or anal) with anyone else for at least 7 days after finishing your medicine or you could re-infect them.