How does this medication work?

Azithromycin 600 mg is used in the prevention of Mycobacterium avium complex (MAI or MAC) infection. It is also used to treat a number of other bacterial infections.

How do I take this medication?

Your dosage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Azithromycin</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>____ tablet(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>____ times a week</td>
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Monday ____ Tuesday ____ Wednesday ____ Thursday ____ Friday ____ Saturday ____ Sunday ____

It is important to take azithromycin regularly, at the same time each day, for the duration of your treatment.

Never stop your treatment without first speaking to your doctor.

What if I forget to take a dose?

Take the dose you missed as soon as possible, and then continue with your regular schedule.

What are the side effects of this medication?

Some people may experience gastrointestinal (digestive) effects, such as diarrhea, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting. If they occur and persist, consult your pharmacist, doctor or dietician for ways to manage these side effects.

It has been noted that high doses or prolonged use of azithromycin may present a risk of ototoxicity (hearing problems). If you have buzzing in your ears, do not hear as well as before or experience any other hearing problems, contact your doctor. These effects are usually reversible if you contact your doctor without delay.

Azithromycin may make your skin more sensitive to the sun or sun lamps. To prevent this, always use a sun screen before going out in the sun or using a sun lamp, and avoid prolonged exposure. Sun screens recommended for photosensitivity (increased sensitivity of the skin to the sun) are Ombrelle 60 and Anthélios “L”.

Azithromycin may cause a temporary increase in liver enzymes. Your doctor will monitor the effect on your liver by means of regular blood tests.

An allergic reaction may occur on rare occasions. If you notice the appearance of a skin eruption (rash, redness with or without itching) or other serious effect on your skin, or have difficulty in breathing, inform your doctor immediately.

Tell your doctor if you have previously had an allergic reaction or other serious side effect with erythromycin or clarithromycin (Biaxin®).
Can I take azithromycin with my other medications?

- Aluminum- or magnesium-based antacids (Amphogel®, Diovol®, Maalox®, etc.)
  If taken at the same time as azithromycin, these antacids may reduce its efficacy. Take azithromycin at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after the antacid.

Consult your doctor or pharmacist before taking any new medication, whether on prescription or not, any natural products or recreational drugs.

Can I drink alcohol if I’m on azithromycin?

Avoid the excessive or regular consumption of alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, spirits) as these may interact with some of your medications.

However, do not miss a dose of your medication because you want to have a drink. Unless your doctor tells you otherwise, reasonable (social) consumption should not be harmful to your health.

What if I’m pregnant or breast-feeding?

Preliminary studies show that azithromycin is the drug of choice for *Mycobacterium avium* complex infections during pregnancy.

As the virus can be transmitted via maternal milk, breast-feeding is not recommended in women who are HIV-positive.

Storage

Keep azithromycin at room temperature (15 to 30°C or 59 to 86°F). Avoid humidity (bathrooms, etc.).

Place out of the sight and reach of children.

General advice

Always keep your appointments with your doctor and the care team, so that your condition can be closely monitored.

If you have any questions about your medications or need help on how to schedule when to take them, please contact your doctor or pharmacist, who know your medication well.

Contact person: __________________________
Telephone: ____________________________