

Patient Group Direction
Supply of Azithromycin
 by suitably accredited Community Pharmacists in South Staffordshire PCT

This Patient Group Direction for use in South Staffordshire Primary Care Trust and is authorised by:

Position of Signatory	Name	Signed	Date
Senior Pharmaceutical Adviser	Genine Riley		
PCT Medical Director	Dr Ken Deacon		
PCT Head of Quality	Heather Johnstone		

The pharmacists named below, being suitably accredited community pharmacists working in community pharmacies on the pharmaceutical list of South Staffordshire PCT are authorised to supply under this Patient Group Direction

Name	Job Title	Signed	Date

Professional Responsibility

1. The Registered pharmacist above must have completed a recognised training course on Chlamydia screening and be accredited to provide such a service.
2. The Registered Pharmacist should ensure that his/her knowledge in this area is kept up to date.
3. The Pharmacist will have due regard for the RPSGB code of conduct and observe any guidance given for the provision of such services.

This Patient Group Direction is operational from 1st October 2010. Review date: August 2012. Expires on 30th September 2012

Administration of	Azithromycin 250mg capsules or Azithromycin 250mg or 500mg tablets
Legal Classification	POM
Black Triangle?	No
Type	Hard gelatine capsule for oral administration or white film coated tablet for oral administration
Storage	Ambient temperature in original manufacturers packaging
Condition to be treated	Patients with uncomplicated genital infections caused by Chlamydia Trachomatis and their contacts
Inclusion Criteria	Patients with confirmed genital Chlamydia Trachomatis infection and their contacts Patients who have vomited within two hours of taking azithromycin for the treatment of Chlamydia. If vomiting occurs a second time, the patient should be referred to his/her GP or GUM clinic
Exclusion Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitivity to azithromycin or any other macrolide antibiotic. • Pregnancy or suspected pregnancy • Breast feeding • Severe hepatic insufficiency • Severe renal impairment (eGFR <10ml/min) • Clinical signs that may suggest pelvic inflammatory disease (abdominal pain, fever, tenderness in the area of the uterus and ovaries) • Patients taking the following medications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticoagulants • Ergotamine derivatives
Reasons for seeking further advice from doctor	Any excluded patients should be referred to a doctor for further advice
Administration Route	Oral
Dose	1 gram (capsules or tablets) i.e four 250mg capsules or four 250mg tablets or two 500mg tablets
Administration Schedule	To be administered as a single dose

<p>Warnings/Adverse Reactions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common side effects include nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and abdominal discomfort. • Less common side effects include allergic reactions including pruritis & rash, arthralgia and vaginitis. • Rarely, severe allergic reactions including anaphylaxis, erythema multiforme, toxic epidermal necrolysis. Also interstitial nephritis & acute renal failure
<p>Advice/Management of Adverse Reactions & Follow-up Action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swallow capsules whole on an empty stomach; advise no food for 1 hour after taking capsules. • Emphasise importance and need for client's sexual partner(s) to be treated. • Advice about possible effects on combined hormonal contraceptive pill / patch. Recommend abstinence (see bullet point below) or if unacceptable advise additional contraceptive protection whilst taking the antibiotic and for a further 7 days. If there are fewer than 7 active pills remaining in the pack, the pill-free interval should be omitted. It is the same advice for the combined hormonal patch. • No sexual intercourse (including protected and oral) whilst taking treatment and until partner(s) have completed treatment (and waited 7 days if treated with Azithromycin) • To report adverse events at the clinic or to their GP. • Advise patient that treatment may need repeating if they do vomit. <p>If an adverse reaction does occur then</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inform the patient's GP as soon as possible 2. Report the reaction to the CSM using the yellow card system <p>Clients should be advised to undertake a full sexual health screen.</p> <p>Advise that all sexual contacts are contacted and advise that they should be tested</p> <p>Advise on safe sexual practices.</p>

Records	<p>The following should be recorded in the patient's notes:</p> <p>Azithromycin tablets should be labelled with the client's name</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drug and strength• Dose• Date of supply• That the drug has been supplied under a PGD <p>A record should be made in the client's Patient Medication Records</p>
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For full product information, always refer to the latest SPC (Summary of Product Characteristics).