

## **DIRECTIONS FOR PARTNERS OF PERSONS WITH CHLAMYDIA**

### **PLEASE READ THIS VERY CAREFULLY**

Your sex partner has recently been treated for chlamydia. Chlamydia is a sexually transmitted disease (STD) that you can get from having any kind of sexual contact (oral, vaginal, or anal) with a person who already has it. You may have been exposed. The good news is that it's easily treated. You are being given a medicine called azithromycin (Zithromax) to treat your possible chlamydia infection. Your partner may have given you the actual medicine, or a prescription that you can take to a pharmacy. These are instructions for how to take azithromycin.

The best way to take care of this infection is to see your own doctor or healthcare provider right away. If you can't get to a healthcare provider in the next several days, you should take the azithromycin. Even if you decide to take the medicine, it is very important that you get tested for other STDs. People can have more than one STD at the same time. Azithromycin will not cure other STDs. Having an STD can increase your risk of getting HIV if you are exposed to it.

### **SYMPTOMS**

Some people with chlamydia have symptoms, but most do not. Most people with chlamydia do not know they are infected because they feel fine. Symptoms may include a discharge (drip) from the penis, vagina, or anus, or pain when you pee or during sex. Females sometimes have bleeding that is not related to their period.

- Males who have pain in their testicles or fever should see a doctor right away.
- Females who have lower belly pain, pain during sex, vomiting or fever, should see a doctor right away.

### **BEFORE TAKING THIS MEDICINE**

This medicine is very safe. **DO NOT TAKE** the medicine if any of the following are true:

- You are female and have lower abdominal pain, pain during sex, vomiting, or fever.
- You are male and have pain or swelling in the testicles or fever.
- You have ever had a bad reaction (rash, breathing problems, or allergic reaction) after taking azithromycin (Zithromax), Erythromycin, Clarithromycin or Biaxin. If you do have allergies to antibiotics, you should check with your doctor before taking this medicine.
- You have a serious long-term illness, such as kidney, heart, or liver disease.

**CAUTION:** If you are taking another prescription medication, including medicine for diabetes, consult a pharmacist or your doctor before taking the medication to ask about drug interactions.

### **HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICINE**

- It is best to take this medicine with food. You will be less likely to have an upset stomach and it will increase the amount of medicine that your body absorbs. Drink it down with a full glass of water.
- You need to take all the pills you were given to be cured.
- Do NOT take antacids (Tums, Rolaids, Maalox) for one hour before or two hours after taking these pills.
- Do NOT share or give this medication to anyone else.

## **SIDE EFFECTS**

The following are possible side effects and are not serious:

- Upset stomach
- Diarrhea
- Dizziness
- Vaginal yeast infection

**If you vomit up the medicine, contact your healthcare provider about retreatment.**

## **ALLERGIC REACTIONS**

Allergic reactions are rare. If you have ever had a bad reaction, rash, breathing problems or other allergic reactions with any antibiotics, consult your doctor or a pharmacist before taking this medicine.

Possible serious allergic reactions include:

- Difficulty breathing, tightness in the chest
- Closing of your throat
- Swelling of your lips or tongue
- Hives (bumps or welts on your skin that itch a lot)

**If you are experience an allergic reaction, call 911.**

## **NEXT STEPS**

- It is very important that you not have sex for 7 days! It takes seven days for the medicine to cure chlamydia. If you have sex during those first 7 days, you can still pass the infection on to your partners or be re-infected by your partner.
- You should tell everyone else who you have had sex with in the last 60 days so that they can get tested and treated too.
- People who are infected with chlamydia once are at high risk for getting it again. It is a good idea to get tested for chlamydia and other STDs in three months to make sure that you did not get another infection.
- Talk to your partner(s) about what you can do to keep from getting STDs and staying healthy.

## **PREVENTION**

Condoms used correctly and consistently will prevent chlamydia, gonorrhea, HIV and most other STDs.  
Use a new condom every time you have sex.

Limiting the number of people you have sex with will decrease the chances of getting an STD.

Congratulations on taking good care of yourself! If you have questions about sexually transmitted diseases or where to get tested, you may contact your partner's healthcare provider, your own doctor, or the public health center in your community.