

# Biaxin

Biaxin - Biaxin is used for treating infections caused by certain bacteria.

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## Drug name

Biaxin (Clarithromycin)

## Drug Uses

Biaxin is used for treating infections caused by certain bacteria.

## How Taken

Use Biaxin as directed by your doctor.

- Take Biaxin by mouth with or without food.
- Biaxin works best if it is taken at the same time each day.
- Continue to take Biaxin even if you feel well. Do not miss any doses.

Ask your health care provider any questions you may have about how to use Biaxin.

## Drug Class and Mechanism

Biaxin is a macrolide antibiotic. It works by stopping the growth of or killing sensitive bacteria by reducing the production of important proteins needed by the bacteria to survive.

## Missed Dose

If you miss a dose of Biaxin, take it as soon as possible. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule. Do not take 2 doses at once.

## Storage

Store Biaxin at 77 degrees F (25 degrees C). Store away from heat, moisture, and light. Do not store in the bathroom. Keep Biaxin out of the reach of children and away from pets.

## Warnings Precautions

Do not use Biaxin if:

- you are allergic to any ingredient in Biaxin or any other macrolide (e.g., erythromycin);
- you are taking cisapride, cyclosporine, dofetilide, eletriptan, ergot alkaloids (e.g., ergotamine, dihydroergotamine), H1 antagonists (e.g., terfenadine, astemizole), pimozone, QT-prolonging agents (e.g., quinidine, sotalol, thioridazine), quinolones (e.g., ciprofloxacin), or sumatriptan.

Contact your doctor or health care provider right away if any of these apply to you. Important :

- Contact your doctor right away if stomach pain or cramps, severe diarrhea, or bloody stools occur. Do not treat diarrhea without first checking with your doctor.
- Biaxin only works against bacteria; it does not treat viral infections (e.g., the common cold).
- Long-term or repeated use of Biaxin may cause a second infection. Tell your doctor if signs of a second infection occur. Your medicine may need to be changed to treat this.
- Be sure to use Biaxin for the full course of treatment. If you do not, the medicine may not clear up your infection completely. The bacteria could also become less sensitive to this or other medicines. This could make the infection harder to treat in the future.
- Lab tests, including complete blood counts, may be performed while you use Biaxin. These tests may be used to monitor your condition or check for side effects. Be sure to keep all doctor and lab appointments.
- Pregnancy and breast-feeding: This medicine has been shown to cause harm to the fetus. Biaxin is not recommended for use during pregnancy except when no other antibiotics can be used. If you think you may be pregnant, contact your doctor. You will need to discuss the benefits and risks of using Biaxin while you are pregnant. It is not known if Biaxin is found in breast milk. If you are or will be breast-feeding while you use Biaxin, check with your doctor. Discuss any possible risks to your baby.

## Possible Side Effects

Check with your doctor if any of these most common side effects persist or become bothersome:

- abnormal taste; diarrhea; headache; indigestion; nausea; stomach discomfort; vomiting.

Seek medical attention right away if any of these severe side effects occur:

- severe allergic reactions (rash; hives; itching; difficulty breathing; tightness in the chest; swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue); bloody stools; confusion; decreased urination; depression; emotional or mood changes; hallucinations; nightmares; severe diarrhea; severe stomach pain/cramps; trouble sleeping.

**More Information**

Biaxin is to be used only by the patient for whom it is prescribed. Do not share it with other people.

**Site:**

Biaxin