

WHO-PQ RECOMMENDED PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

*This patient information leaflet focuses on uses of the medicine covered by WHO's Prequalification Team - Medicines. The recommendations for use are based on WHO guidelines and on information from stringent regulatory authorities.**

The medicine may be authorised for additional or different uses by national medicines regulatory authorities.

* https://extranet.who.int/prequal/sites/default/files/document_files/75%20SRA%20clarification_Feb2017_newtempl.pdf

Information for the patient

[MA171 trade name][†]
Amodiaquine (hydrochloride)+pyrimethamine/sulfadoxine

*The warnings and instructions in this leaflet are intended for the person taking the medicine.
If you are a parent or carer responsible for giving the medicine to someone else such as a child,
you will need to apply the instructions accordingly.*

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have questions about the medicine, ask your health care provider.
- This medicine is for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their illness seems to be the same as yours.
- If you are concerned about any side effects, talk to your health care provider. This includes unwanted effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet

1. What [MA171 trade name] is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take [MA171 trade name]
3. How to take [MA171 trade name]
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store [MA171 trade name]
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What [MA171 trade name] is and what it is used for

[MA171 trade name] is made of two types of tablets. One type of tablet contains a medicine called amodiaquine and the other contains two medicines: sulfadoxine and pyrimethamine.

[MA171 trade name] is used to prevent malaria in children during the malaria season (usually during the rainy season).

Your health care provider will follow the most recent official guidelines on the use of malaria medicines to select the right medicine for you and decide when you should start taking the medicine.

2. What you need to know before you take [MA171 trade name]

[MA171 trade name], like other medicines used to prevent malaria, may not offer 100% protection against infection. In addition, wearing protective clothing, use of insect repellents and bed nets remain important in malaria prevention. See your health care provider if you have signs of fever.

You must not take [MA171 trade name] if you:

- are allergic (hypersensitive) to amodiaquine, pyrimethamine, sulfadoxine (or another sulphonamide) or to any of the other ingredients of [MA171 trade name] (see section 6)
- have ever suffered blood disorders with amodiaquine, pyrimethamine or sulfadoxine
- have ever had liver problems with amodiaquine

[†] Trade names are not prequalified by WHO. This is the national medicines regulatory agency's responsibility.

- have an eye problem called retinopathy that affects the light-sensitive layer at the back of the eye
- have low levels of red blood cells which can cause tiredness (megaloblastic anaemia)
- are suffering from a recent illness. If you have malaria, then you may need treatment with a different medicine
- have been treated in the past 4 weeks with medicines containing amodiaquine or pyrimethamine and sulfadoxine
- are HIV-positive and have been taking a combination of sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim

If you are not sure you should take [MA171 trade name], talk to your health care provider before taking the medicine.

Take special care with [MA171 trade name]

Check with your health care provider before taking [MA171 trade name] if you:

If any of the above apply to you, or if you are not sure, talk to your health care provider before you take [MA171 trade name].

If you get a skin rash or itchiness with [MA171 trade name], stop taking [MA171 trade name] and talk to your health care provider.

Taking other medicines

Tell your health care provider if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines. This includes medicines that you buy without a prescription and herbal medicines.

In particular, tell your health care provider if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- malaria medicines containing amodiaquine, pyrimethamine or sulfadoxine
- medicines containing sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim (for preventing certain infections in people who are HIV positive)
- HIV medicines containing ritonavir, saquinavir or lopinavir
- antibacterial medicine which contains a sulfonamide
- ketoconazole- an antifungal medicine
- montelukast - a medicine used in asthma
- gemfibrozil - a medicine used to reduce cholesterol and fats in the blood
- anti-depressants
- antipsychotic drugs
- beta blockers (medicines for treating certain heart conditions)

Pregnancy and breastfeeding

If you are pregnant, you must check with your health care provider before you take this medicine, particularly during the first 3 months of pregnancy. If you learn that you are pregnant during the treatment, speak with your health care provider. You can breastfeed your baby during treatment with this medicine but check with your health care provider first.

Driving and using machines

If you feel dizzy or tired after taking this medicine, you should not drive or operate machinery.

Other ingredients of [MA171 tradename]

[MA171 tradename] (the yellow tablet) contains **lactose**. Lactose is a source of glucose and galactose. The small amount of lactose in each dose is unlikely to cause symptoms of lactose intolerance. If, however, you have one of the rare genetic disorders galactosaemia, glucose-galactose intolerance or congenital lactase deficiency you must talk to your health care provider before taking this medicine.

[MA171 tradename] also contains **aspartame** (both the yellow and white tablets). Aspartame is a source of phenylalanine. It may be harmful if you have phenylketonuria (PKU), a rare genetic disorder in which phenylalanine builds up because the body cannot remove it properly.

This medicinal product contains 42 mg **sodium** per dose (on day 1), equivalent to 2 % of the WHO recommended maximum daily intake of 2 g sodium for an adult and 36 mg sodium per dose (on day 2 and day 3), equivalent to 1.8 % of the WHO recommended maximum daily intake of 2 g sodium for an adult.

3. How to take [MA171 trade name]

Your health care provider will tell you when to start treatment with [MA171 trade name].

To get the best protection you will be given 3 to 5 courses of [MA171 trade name] during the malaria season. Each course lasts 3 days and you will take the medicines in the presence of the health care provider on the first day. There should be a gap of 28 days between the courses.

The doses recommended below are suitable for children from 12 months of age.

	Dose (child aged 12 months to up to 59 months)	
	Amodiaquine tablet (153 mg)	Sulfadoxine/Pyrimethamine tablet (500 mg/25 mg)
Day 1	1 tablet as a single dose	1 tablet as a single dose
Day 2	1 tablet as a single dose	–
Day 3	1 tablet as a single dose	–

Take 1 yellow tablet (amodiaquine 153 mg) and 1 white tablet (sulfadoxine/pyrimethamine 500 mg/25 mg) on day 1, then 1 yellow tablet on day 2 and finally 1 yellow tablet on day 3.

Children less than 12 months of age

This product is not suitable for use in infants. Your health care provider may recommend a more appropriate medicine in children less than 12 months of age.

Children 60 months of age (5 years) or older

The recommended dose is based on bodyweight and your health care provider will tell you about the number of tablets you should take.

Instructions on how to take the tablets

The tablets should be dispersed (made into a mixture) in water.

For taking [MA171 trade name] on the **first day of treatment**, you need a clean cup or glass.

On the **first day of treatment**:

- Add about 10 mL of drinking water into the cup/glass;
- Put the yellow amodiaquine tablet and the white sulfadoxine/pyrimethamine tablet into the water in the cup/glass
- Let the tablets disperse, then gently but thoroughly shake the mixture (being careful not to spill any) and let the child drink the contents of the cup/glass right away;
- Rinse the cup/glass with another 10 mL or so of drinking water and let the child drink the contents to ensure that the whole dose is taken.

On the second and third day of treatment:

- Add approximately 10 mL of drinking water into the cup/glass;
- Put the yellow amodiaquine tablet into the water in the cup/glass;
- Let the tablet disperse, then gently but thoroughly shake the mixture (being careful not to spill any) and let the child drink the contents of the cup/glass right away;
- Rinse the cup/glass with another 10 mL or so of drinking water and drink the contents to ensure that the whole dose is taken.

If you vomit within 30 minutes of taking the tablet, then you will need to take another tablet. Wait for 10 minutes before taking the replacement dose.

If you take more [MA171 trade name] than you should

If you take too much [MA171 trade name], tell your health care provider.

If you do not take [MA171 trade name] at the right time

You should take the medicines at the right time to have the best chance of preventing malaria. If you miss a dose, take the missed dose as soon as you can and take the next one after at least 8 hours. If you miss a full course (a month after the previous one) then you will be less protected but you should still receive the next course.

If you have any questions on the use of this medicine, ask your health care provider.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects but not everybody gets them.

The most common side effects of amodiaquine are vomiting, stomach pain, fever, diarrhoea, itching, headaches and rash. Pyrimethamine/sulfadoxine can cause skin rash and side effects on moist areas such as the lining of the nose and the mouth.

Serious but rare side effects include blood disorder, liver damage and severe skin reactions.

Other side effects have occurred with amodiaquine and pyrimethamine/sulfadoxine usually in adults treated for malaria but not when these medicines are used for seasonal malaria prevention in children. These side effects include:

Mental and nervous system disorders:

Depression, nervousness, apathy, dizziness, nerve disorders, fits, inability to move properly, sleeplessness, muscle weakness, hallucinations

Digestive system

Loss of appetite, feeling sick, inflammation of the tongue and in the mouth, stomach feeling full

Liver and pancreas

Inflammation of the pancreas and blood test showing a temporary increase in liver enzymes

Skin

Skin reactions caused by sunlight, slight hair loss, grey coloration of the skin and the lining of the nose and mouth

Eyes

Temporary problems with focussing, clouding of the clear layer at the front of the eye (which gets better when the medicine is stopped), damage to the light-sensitive layer at the back of the eye, swelling around the eyes, and redness

Ear

Ringling or buzzing sound in the ear, sense of losing balance or feeling giddy

Heart

Inflammation of the heart and of the sac that surrounds the heart

Blood and kidney disorders

Kidney disorders, reduced urine, kidney stones. Sulfadoxine can increase urine volume

Reduced quantity of white blood cells, red blood cells and platelets

Clotting disorder, increased quantity of white blood cells and blood spot under the skin.

Allergic reactions

Allergic reactions including skin rashes, joint stiffness and fever, swelling of the throat, face, and other parts of the body

Bones

Joint pain

Lungs

Allergic reactions in the lungs

Reporting of side effects

If you get a side effect, talk to your health care provider. This includes side effects not listed in this leaflet. You may also be able to report such effects directly to your national reporting system if one is available. By reporting side effects, you can help to improve the available information on this medicine.

5. How to store [MA171 trade name]

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not store above 30°C. Store tablets in blisters in the provided carton in order to protect from light.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date stated on the carton and blister, after “EXP”. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not use this medicine if you notice visible signs of deterioration or that it is different from the description below.

Do not throw away any medicines in wastewater or household waste. Ask your health care provider how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What [MA171 trade name] contains

- The active ingredient of the yellow tablet is amodiaquine (as hydrochloride) 153 mg and the active ingredients of the white tablet are pyrimethamine 25 mg and sulfadoxine 500 mg.

- The other ingredients of [MA170 trade name] are:

Yellow tablet (amodiaquine [as hydrochloride] 153 mg dispersible tablet)

Microcrystalline cellulose, lactose monohydrate, croscarmellose sodium, basic butylated methacrylate copolymer, aspartame, orange flavour, sodium bicarbonate and sodium stearyl fumarate.

White tablet (pyrimethamine / sulfadoxine 25 mg/250 mg dispersible tablet)

Pregelatinized starch, croscarmellose sodium, colloidal silicon dioxide, microcrystalline cellulose, aspartame, orange flavour and sodium stearyl fumarate.

What [MA171 trade name] looks like and contents of the pack

[MA171 trade name] consists of amodiaquine (as hydrochloride) 153 mg tablets packed together with pyrimethamine/sulfadoxine 25 mg/500 mg tablets.

Amodiaquine (as hydrochloride) 153mg dispersible tablets

Yellow, round, flat, bevelled edge, uncoated tablet debossed with 'J' and '12' on either side of score line on one side and plain on other side.

Pyrimethamine/sulfadoxine 25 mg/500 mg dispersible tablets

White to off-white, capsule-shaped, biconvex, uncoated tablet, debossed with 'F' and '41' on either side of score line on one side and plain on other side.

Pack size: 50 blister cards per carton.

It is a co-blistered product, containing three (3) yellow-coloured amodiaquine (as hydrochloride) 153 mg dispersible tablets and one (1) white-coloured pyrimethamine/sulfadoxine 25 mg/500 mg dispersible tablet per blister card.

The blister card is made of clear plastic (PVC/PVDC) – Aluminum.

Supplier

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For any information about this medicine, contact the local representative of the supplier.

Amodiaquine (as hydrochloride) +
pyrimethamine/sulfadoxine
153mg+25mg/500mg dispersible tablets
(Macleods Pharmaceuticals Ltd), MA171

WHOPAR Part 3

October 2024
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This leaflet was last revised in October 2024.
Section 6 was updated in August 2025.

Detailed information on this medicine is available on the World Health Organization (WHO) website:
<https://extranet.who.int/prequal/medicines/prequalified/finished-pharmaceutical-products>