Package leaflet: Information for the user

BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU powder and solvent for suspension for injection

Benzathine benzylpenicillin

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.
- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet

1. What BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU is and what it is used for

BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU contains benzathine benzylpenicillin, an antibiotic that belongs to the family of penicillins.

Antibiotics are used to treat bacterial infections and are not useful for treating viral infections such as the flu or colds.
It is important that you follow the instructions regarding dosage, interval of administration and duration of treatment given by your doctor.
Do not store or reuse this medicine. If you have leftover antibiotics after treatment, return them to the pharmacy for proper disposal. Do not throw the medicine down the drain or in the trash.

Benzathine benzylpenicillin is indicated for the treatment of the infections caused by sensitive bacteria such as:

-Pharyngitis and tonsillitis
-Syphilis: primary and secondary
-Late-stage Syphilis (except neurosyphilis)
-Erysipelas (skin infection)
-Tropical infectious diseases of the skin, caused by bacteria of the Treponema species, such as yaws, or pinta.

Benzathine benzylpenicillin is also indicated to prevent the following diseases:

-Rheumatic fever.
-Poststreptococcal glomerulonephritis (a specific form of kidney inflammation).
-Erysipelas (skin infection).

2. What you need to know before you use BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU

Do not use BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU

- If you are allergic to active substance or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).

- If you are allergic (hypersensitive) to penicillins, cephalosporins or soya.

- If you have ever had an allergic reactions while taking an antibiotic or other medicines. This may include a skin rash or swelling of the face or neck.

Warnings and precautions
Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU.

-If you have ever had an allergic reaction to other antibiotics like penillicin or other beta-lactam antibiotics,

- if you have kidney problems (your doctor may need to adapt the dose of this medicine),

- if you have liver problems,

- if you are on a controlled sodium diet.

BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU should not be used in tissues with poor blood flow.

If allergic symptoms occur (e.g. skin rash, itching, shortness of breath), tell your doctor immediately. Before treatment, a hypersensitivity test should be performed if possible. If an allergic reaction occurs, your doctor will stop your treatment and, if necessary, start appropriate therapy.

If you are allergic to cephalosporins. In patients hypersensitive to cephalosporins, the possibility of allergic cross reactions should be considered.

If you are asthmatic or allergic to hay fever, you should tell your doctor. Severe immediate allergic reactions are possible even when the drug is administered for the first time. In some cases, you will remain under observation for at least half an hour after the medicine has been administered in case an acute allergic reaction should occur. If an allergy occurs, the doctor will take appropriate measures. Treatment with BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU must be stopped immediately.

When syphilis is treated, a reaction of the body to the bacterial toxins can occur, lasting up to several days (Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction, see Section 4). Typical symptoms are sudden fever (sometimes with chills), pallor, followed by skin redness, headache, muscle and joint pain, or fatigue. Your doctor will start appropriate treatment to suppress or lessen a Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction.

If you suffer from kidney impaired and/or sever impaired liver failure the dose should be adjusted. In long-term treatment (more than 5 days), your doctor may arrange for checks on your blood count and kidney function tests.

As with other antibiotics, therapy with BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU may also lead to the overgrowth of non-susceptible germs. Contact your doctor if you get a fungal infection.

If you suffer ulcerative colitis, Crohn´s disease or pseudomembranous colitis (persistent diarrhea and / or severe diarrhea during or after the administration of this medicine), you must undergo a rigorous clinical control, with periodic analytical determinations.

During treatment with antibiotics, including BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU, diarrhea can occur even several weeks after the end of your treatment. In case of severe or persistent diarrhea, or if you notice that your stools contain blood or mucus, inform your doctor immediately to stop the treatment. Do not take medicines intended to block or slow down your bowel movements.

Other medicines and BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU
Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are using, have recently used or might use any other medicines.

Ask your doctor if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Allopurinol and probenecid (medicines used to treat gout or gouty arthritis)
- Methotrexate (medicine used in chemotherapy)
- Other antibiotics
- Anticoagulants (medicines used to thin the blood)

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are using, have recently used or might use any other medicines.

BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU with food and drink
Treatment with BENZETACIL is not affected, if it is administered together with food.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility
If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU should not be used during pregnancy unless the woman´s clinical situation reqIUres benzathine benzylpenicillin treatment.

Small amounts of benzylpenicillin pass into breast milk. lthough no side effects have been reported to date in young infants fed on breast milk, the possibility of sensitisation or interference with the intestinal flora must nevertheless be considered. In the case of occurrence of diarrhoea, candidosis or rash in the child, ask immediately your doctor. Breastfeeding can start again 24 hours after completion of treatment.

Driving and using machines
There is no evidence of effects on the ability to drive vehicles or use machinery.

BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU contains Sodium
This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per vial, that is to say essentially ‘sodium-free’.

BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU contains Soya
This medicine contains 10.25 mg soya lecithin per vial. If you are allergic to peanut or soya, this medicinal product should not be used.

3. How to use BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU

Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

In principle, BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU is administered by a healthcare profesional.

The recommended dose is:

General treatment:
Adults and adolescents: 1,200,000 IU once weekly.
Children > 30 kg body weight: 1,200,000 IU once weekly
Children < 30 kg body weight: 600,000 IU once weekly.
Duration of treatment: single dose

Treatment of syphilis:

- . primary and secondary:

Adults and adolescents: 2,400,000 IU administered in single dose.
Children: 50,000 IU/kg body weight, no more than 2,400,000 IU.
If clinical symptoms return or laboratory findings remain strongly positive, treatment should be repeated.
Duration of treatment: single dose.

- Late-stage syphilis**:**

Adults and adolescents: 2,400,000 IU once weekly.
Children: 50,000 IU/kg body weight, no more than 2,400,000 IU.
Duration of treatment: 3 weeks.

- Congenital syphilis: without neurological involvement.

- Newborns and infants: 1 x 50,000 IU/kg weight.
  Duration of treatment: single dose.

Treatment of tropical infectious skin diseases (yaws, pinta):
Adults and adolescents: 1,200,000 IU single dose.
Children > 30 kg body weight: 1,200,000 IU single dose
Children < 30 kg body weight: 600,000 IU single dose.
Duration of treatment: single dose.

Prevention of rheumatic fever, poststreptococcal glomerulonephritis and erysipelas:
Adults and adolescents: 1,200,000 IU every 3-4 weeks.
Children > 30 kg body weight: 1,200,000 IU every 3-4 weeks.
Children < 30 kg body weight: 600,000 IU every 3-4 weeks.
Duration of treatment:

a) Without heart involvement: at least 5 years, or up to 21 years of age.
b) Temporary heart involvement: at least 10 years, or up to 21 years of age.
c) Persistent heart involvement: at least 10 years or up to 40 years of age; life-long treatment is sometimes necessary.

Patients with impaired kidney function and / or impaired liver function
The dosage and dosing interval will be determined by your doctor. According to the functioning degree of your kidneys and / or liver, your doctor may consider adjusting your dose.

Method of administration
BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU is administered exclusively by deep intramuscular route.
The injection must not be administered into tissue with poor blood flow.
In case of repeated intramuscular application, the site of injection must be changed.

Severe local reactions may occur during intramuscular administration, especially in young children. For this reason, other treatments such as a different penicillin formulation can be used where possible.

For instructions on how to reconstitute the medicine before administration, see the "Preparation instructions" section at the end of the leaflet.

If you use more BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU than you should
At extremely high doses, penicillins can cause neuromuscular excitability or epileptiform seizures.
In case of overdose or accidental ingestion, immediately consult your doctor or pharmacist, or call the Toxicology Information Service, thelephone 91 562 04 20 indicating the medicine and the amount used.

If you forget to use BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU
Do not use a double dose to make up for a forgotten doses. Use the missed dose as soon as possible, and then continue with regular schedule.

If you stop using BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU
If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

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

The adverse effects of this medicine are, in general, transient and mild. In most cases, the adverse effects are allergic and are manifested dermatologically. The toxicological profile of this medicine is similar to the other penicillins, alhough allergic manifestations are more frequents, especially parenterally.

Severe allergic reactions (anaphylactic reactions or angioedema) which may occur as:

- skin rash or itchy skin
- difficulty in breathing or tightness of the chest
- puffiness of the eyelids, face or lips
- swelling or redness of the tongue
- fever
- joint pains
- swollen lymph nodes

In the event of an allergic reaction, administration will be discontinued and treatment with antihistamines (antiallergic) and/ or corticosteroids (anti-inflamatory) will be establish.

The adverse effects listed below are classified according to their frequency and classification by organs and systems. The frequency categories are defined by the following convention:
Very common (affects more than 1 in 10 patients);
Common (affects up to 1 in 100 patients);
Uncommon (affecting up to 1 in 1,000 patients);
Rare (affecting 1 and 10 out of 10,000 patients);
Very rare (affecting less than 1 in 10,000 patients);
Frequency not known (cannot be estimated from the available data)

Infections and infestations
Common: fungal infection (candidiasis)

Blood and lymphatic system disorders
Very rare: certain blood disorders (eosinophilia, neutropenia, leukopenia, agranulocytosis, granulocytopenia, pancytopenia) and clotting disorders.
Frequency not known: Prolongation of bleeding time and prothrombin time. Hemolytic anemia (reduced blood levels of red blood cells), thrombocytopenia (reduced blood levels of platelets).

Gastrointestinal disorders
Common: nausea.
Uncommon: inflammation of the mouth lining (stomatitis) and burning tongue (glossitis), vomiting.
Rare: pseudomembranous colitis (colon inflamation), diarrhoea.

Immune system disorders:
Rare: allergic reactions: nettle-like skin rash (urticaria), angioedema (swelling), skin reactions (erythema multiforme, exfoliative dermatitis), fever, painful joints, anaphylactic shock with collapse and anaphylactoid reactions (asthma, hemorrhagic skin lesion called purpura, gastrointestinal discomfort)

Frequency not known: serum sickness. When syphilis is treated, a reaction called Jarisch-Herxheimer can occur, due to the destruction of bacteria, characterized by fever, chills, general and focal symptoms. Para-allergic reactions can occur in patients with mycosis of the skin (skin fungus). Angioedema (swelling of the skin, mucosa and subcutaneous tissue, generally located on the face, mouth or tongue)

Nervous system disorders:
Rare: neuropathy (nerve involvement).
Frequency not known:
Encephalopathy with insomnia, confusion, hallucinations, convulsions and status epilepticus, myoclonus (muscle contraction), and more rarely aseptic meningitis and benign intracranial hypertension.
Metabolic encephalopathy (neurological disorders with convulsions and loss of consciousness).

Hepatobiliary disorders
Frequency not known: liver inflammation (hepatitis), impairment of bile flow (cholestasis).

Skin and connective tissue disorders
Frequent: Rashes, exanthem (reddish skin rash), itching.
Frequency not known: AGEP – Acute Generalized Exanthematous Pustulosis with symptoms such as severe drug skin reactions with or without reddening of the skin, fever, pustules, maculo-papular rash (flat and red area on the skin), rash morbilliform (rash that looks like measles), itching, erythema (inflammatory reddening of the skin).

Renal and urinary disorders:
Rare: kidney disease (nephropathy), kidney inflammation (interstitial nephritis), albuminuria, cilindruria (protein excretion in urine) and hematuria (blood in urine). Oliguria (decreased urine production), anuria (no urine excretion) may occur at high doses and would usually disappear within 48 hours of completing treatment.

General disorders and alterations in the place of administration:
Frequent: pain and/or infiltration at the injection site.

Investigation:
Frequent: modifications of certain tests and investigations such as:

- Positive direct Coombs' test.
-False positive test in the determination of protein in urine, using precipitation techniques (Folin-Ciocalteu-Lowry and biuret method).
- False positives on amino acid tests.
- Simulation of albuminemia in the determination of albumin by electrophoretic methods.
- Non-enzymatic tests to detect a false positive for urine glucose and urobilinogen.
- High levels when determining ketosteroids in urine (Zimmermann reaction).

Reporting of side effects
It is important to report suspected adverse drug reactions after authorization. This allows continuous monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Health professionals are invited to report suspected adverse reactions through the Spanish System of Pharmacovigilance for Medicinal Products for Human Use: https://www.notificaram.es.

5. How to store BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU

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

Powder for suspension for injection (vial) must be stored in a dry place.
Reconstituted vial: The reconstituted product should be used immediately for intramuscular administration.

Do not use this medication after the expiration date shown on the package after "EXP". The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Deposit the containers and medications you no longer need at the pharmacy's Sigre Point .Ask your pharmacist 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 BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU contains

Vial:
- The active substance is benzathine benzylpenicillin (Penicillin G benzathine). Each vial contains 1,200,000IU benzathine benzylpenicillin.
- The other ingredient (excipient(s) are Tween 80, lecithin, sodium citrate (E-331).

Ampoule: water for injection.

Once the vial is reconstituted with 4ml of water, the final volume is 4.8 ml, containing 1,200,000 IU of Benzathine Benzylpenicillin.
There are 300,000 IU of benzathine benzylpenicillin in 1.2 ml of suspension.

What BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU looks like and contents of the pack
BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU is packaged in unitary packages: 1 vial and 1 ampoule and in clinical packages: 100 vials and 100 ampoules.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer
Marketing Authorisation Holder
Laboratorio Reig Jofré, S.A.
Gran Capitán, 10
08970 San Joan Despí (Barcelona)

Manufacturer
Laboratorio Reig Jofré, S.A.
Jarama, 111 - Polígono Industrial
45007 Toledo

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Detailed, up-to-date information on this medicine is available on the website of the Spanish Agency for Medicines and Healthcare Products (AEMPS) http://www.aemps.es/

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The following information is intended for healthcare professionals only:

Medicine: BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU powder and solvent for suspension for injection.

Method of administration
BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU is administered exclusively by deep intramuscular route into the upper outer quadrant of the gluteus or in the ventro-gluteal zone of Hochstetter with the needle pointed towards the iliac crest or according to the Hochstetter method. The puncture should be as perpendicular as possible to the surface of the skin and the injection as far as possible from the main vessels. In the case of repeated doses, change the injection site.
In children the recommended injection site is in the mid-lateral thigh muscle (femoral quadriceps). Injection into the deltoid muscle is only recommended if the muscle mass is adequate. In this case, attention should be paid to the radial nerve.

In infants and young children, the peripheral area of the upper outer quadrant of the gluteal region should only be used as an injection site in exceptional cases, to avoid injury to the sciatic nerve.
Before injection, intravascular administration should be excluded by aspiration. In the event of repeated doses, change the injection site.

For depot preparations, although it is recommended not to administer more than 5 ml per injection site as the tolerance limit, the entire vial can be administered in one place. In case of excessive pain, the volume can be divided into two injection sites.

The injection should be given as slowly as possible and only with the application of low pressure.

Avoid pressing and/or rubbing after the injection.

Preparation instructions:
For the injection of BENZETACIL, a long 0.9 mm gauge needle should be used. Aseptically prepare the suspension by injecting into the vial the 4 ml of water for injectable preparations from the ampoule provided.
Shake until a homogeneous suspension is obtained. Aspirate the contents of the vial with the syringe.
1.2 ml of suspension for injection of BENZETACIL 1,200,000 IU, contains 300,.000 IU of benzathine benzylpenicillin after reconstitution with the 4 ml water of the ampoule.

To inject, stick the needle deep into the gluteus, place the syringe and suck it in by pulling the plunger of the syringe and checking that no blood comes out to make sure that the needle is not in the light of a blood vessel. Apply as soon as possible to prevent it from crystallizing inside the injection needle and causing the patient more pain.

For single use only. Discard unused suspension.