

## **PRODUCT MONOGRAPH**

<sup>Pr</sup> **CLINDAMYCIN**  
Clindamycin Hydrochloride Capsules USP  
150 mg and 300 mg

**Antibiotic**

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**Pr CLINDAMYCIN**  
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**PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION**

**SUMMARY PRODUCT INFORMATION**

<b>Route of Administration</b>	<b>Dosage Form / Strength</b>	<b>All Non Medicinal Ingredients</b>
Oral	Capsule  150 mg and 300 mg	Stearic acid and talc.  Capsule shell: gelatin, titanium dioxide and FD&C Blue #1(150 mg and 300 mg). FD&C Red #40, D&C Red #33, D&C Red #28, and FD&C Yellow #5 (150 mg).  The edible ink on the capsule shell contains the non-medicinal ingredients: shellac glaze-45% (20% esterified), titanium dioxide, ammonium hydroxide 28%, propylene glycol and simethicone.

**INDICATIONS AND CLINICAL USE**

CLINDAMYCIN (clindamycin hydrochloride) is indicated in the treatment of serious infections due to sensitive anaerobic bacteria, such as *Bacteroides* species, *Peptostreptococcus*, anaerobic streptococci, *Clostridium* species and microaerophilic streptococci.

CLINDAMYCIN is also indicated in serious infections due to sensitive gram-positive aerobic organisms (staphylococci, including penicillinase-producing staphylococci, streptococci and pneumococci) when the patient is intolerant of, or the organism is resistant to other appropriate antibiotics.

CLINDAMYCIN is indicated for the treatment of the *Pneumocystis jiroveci* pneumonia in patients with AIDS. Clindamycin in combination with primaquine may be used in patients who are intolerant to, or fail to respond to conventional therapy.

CLINDAMYCIN is indicated for prophylaxis against alpha-hemolytic (viridans group) streptococci before dental, oral and upper respiratory tract surgery.

- a) The prophylaxis of bacterial endocarditis in patients allergic to penicillin with any of the following conditions: congenital cardiac malformations, rheumatic and other acquired valvular dysfunction, prosthetic heart valves, previous history of bacterial endocarditis, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, surgically constructed systemic-pulmonary shunts, mitral valve prolapse with valvular regurgitation or mitral valve prolapse without regurgitation but associated with thickening and/or redundancy of the valve leaflets.

- b) Patients taking oral penicillin for prevention or recurrence of rheumatic fever should be given another agent such as clindamycin, for prevention of bacterial endocarditis.

### **Geriatrics (> 65 years of age):**

Clinical studies of clindamycin did not include sufficient numbers of patients age 65 and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger patients.

### **Pediatrics (for children weighing $\geq 40$ pounds (18,2 kg) *and able to swallow*):**

It is not known if use of clindamycin in pediatric patients is associated with differences in safety or effectiveness compared with adult patients.

To reduce the development of drug-resistant bacteria and maintain the effectiveness of CLINDAMYCIN and other antibacterial drugs, CLINDAMYCIN should be used only to treat or prevent infections that are proven or strongly suspected to be caused by susceptible bacteria. When culture and susceptibility information are available, they should be considered in selecting or modifying antibacterial therapy. In the absence of such data, local epidemiology and susceptibility patterns may contribute to the empiric selection of therapy.

## **CONTRAINDICATIONS**

CLINDAMYCIN (clindamycin hydrochloride) is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to clindamycin or lincomycin or to any ingredient in the formulation or component of the container.

Until further clinical experience is obtained CLINDAMYCIN is not indicated in the newborn (infant below 30 days of age). For a complete listing, see (**DOSAGE FORMS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING**).

## **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**

### **General**

In patients with G-6-PD deficiency, the combination of clindamycin with primaquine may cause hemolytic reactions. Routine blood examinations should be done during therapy with primaquine to monitor potential hematologic toxicities. Reference should also be made to the primaquine product monograph for other possible risk groups for other hematologic reactions (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS**).

If patients should develop serious hematologic adverse effects, reducing the dosage regimen of primaquine and/or CLINDAMYCIN capsule should be considered (see **DOSAGE and ADMINISTRATION**).

CLINDAMYCIN (clindamycin hydrochloride) should be prescribed with caution in atopic individuals.

CLINDAMYCIN does not diffuse adequately into cerebrospinal fluid and thus should not be used in the treatment of meningitis.

The 150 mg capsules contain FD&C yellow no. 5 (tartrazine), which may cause allergic-type reactions (including bronchial asthma) in certain susceptible individuals. Although the overall incidence of FD&C yellow no. 5 (tartrazine) sensitivity in the general population is low, it is frequently seen in patients who also have aspirin hypersensitivity.

The use of antibiotics occasionally results in overgrowth of non-susceptible organisms - particularly yeasts. Should super-infections occur, appropriate measures should be taken as dictated by the clinical situation.

Care should be exercised when treating patients with multiple medications (see DRUG INTERACTIONS).

### **Gastrointestinal**

CLINDAMYCIN should be prescribed with caution in patients with a history of gastrointestinal disease, particularly colitis, inflammatory bowel disease (including regional enteritis and ulcerative colitis), or a history of antibiotic-associated colitis (including pseudomembranous colitis).

### ***Clostridium difficile*-associated disease (CDAD)**

*Clostridium difficile*-associated disease (CDAD) has been reported with use of many antibacterial agents, including CLINDAMYCIN (clindamycin hydrochloride). CDAD may range in severity from mild diarrhea to fatal colitis. It is important to consider this diagnosis in patients who present with diarrhea, or symptoms of colitis, pseudomembranous colitis, toxic megacolon, or perforation of colon subsequent to the administration of any antibacterial agent. CDAD has been reported to occur over 2 months after the administration of antibacterial agents.

Treatment with antibacterial agents may alter the normal flora of the colon and may permit overgrowth of *Clostridium difficile*. *C. difficile* produces toxins A and B, which contribute to the development of CDAD. CDAD may cause significant morbidity and mortality. CDAD can be refractory to antimicrobial therapy.

If the diagnosis of CDAD is suspected or confirmed, appropriate therapeutic measures should be initiated. Mild cases of CDAD usually respond to discontinuation of antibacterial agents not directed against *Clostridium difficile*. In moderate to severe cases, consideration should be given to management with fluids and electrolytes, protein supplementation, and treatment with an antibacterial agent clinically effective against *Clostridium difficile*. Surgical evaluation should be instituted as clinically indicated; as surgical intervention may be required in certain severe cases (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS**).

### **Hepatic/Biliary/Pancreatic**

In patients with moderate to severe liver disease, prolongation of the half-life of clindamycin has been found. However, it was postulated from studies that when given every eight hours, accumulation of clindamycin should rarely occur. Therefore, dosage reduction in liver disease is not generally considered necessary. Periodic liver enzyme determinations should be made when treating patients with severe liver disease.

### **Immune**

Serious allergic reactions including anaphylactoid reactions, drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS), and dermatological reactions including Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS), toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) and acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP) have

been reported in patients on clindamycin therapy. If a hypersensitivity reaction occurs CLINDAMYCIN should be discontinued and appropriate therapy should be initiated (see **CONTRAINDICATIONS, ADVERSE REACTIONS**).

### **Renal**

CLINDAMYCIN dose modification may not be necessary in patients with renal disease. The serum half-life of clindamycin is increased slightly in patients with markedly reduced renal function.

### ***Special Populations***

**Pregnant Women:** There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Safety for use in pregnancy has not been established.

Clindamycin should not be used in pregnancy unless clearly needed and unless the expected benefits to the mother outweigh any potential risks to the fetus.

Clindamycin crosses the placenta in humans. After multiple doses, amniotic fluid concentrations were approximately 30% of maternal blood concentrations. Clindamycin was widely distributed in fetal tissues with the highest concentration found in liver.

Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and mice using subcutaneous and oral doses of clindamycin ranging from 20 to 600 mg/kg/day and have revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus due to clindamycin except at doses that caused maternal toxicity. In one mouse strain, cleft palates were observed in treated fetuses; this response was not produced in other mouse strains or in other species, and therefore may be a strain specific effect. Oral and subcutaneous reproductive toxicity studies in rats and rabbits revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus due to clindamycin, except at doses that caused maternal toxicity. Animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response.

**Nursing Women:** Clindamycin has been reported to appear in human breast milk in the range of 0.7 to 3.8 mcg/mL at doses of 150 mg orally to 600 mg intravenously. Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants, CLINDAMYCIN should not be taken by nursing mothers.

**Geriatrics (> 60 years of age):** Experience has demonstrated that antibiotic-associated colitis may occur more frequently and with increased severity among elderly and debilitated patients. These patients should be carefully monitored for the development of diarrhea.

**Pediatrics:** Pediatric patients should be assessed for their ability to swallow CLINDAMYCIN capsule. If a child is unable to reliably swallow a capsule, CLINDAMYCIN capsule should not be used and a suitable dosage formulation should be used.

### **Monitoring and Laboratory Tests**

Routine blood examinations should be done during concomitant therapy with primaquine to monitor potential hematologic toxicities.

Periodic liver and kidney function tests and blood counts should be performed during prolonged therapy when treating patients with severe liver disease.

As with all antibiotics, perform culture and sensitivity studies in conjunction with drug therapy.

## ADVERSE REACTIONS

### Clinical Trial Adverse Drug Reactions

*Because clinical trials are conducted under very specific conditions the adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials may not reflect the rates observed in practice and should not be compared to the rates in the clinical trials of another drug. Adverse drug reaction information from clinical trials is useful for identifying drug-related adverse events and for approximating rates.*

Adverse drug reaction frequencies for the three clindamycin formulations (clindamycin capsules, clindamycin granules for oral solution and clindamycin injection) are based on the clinical data sources from the original drug submission and on the total number of patients enrolled in the clinical trials (N=1787).

Adverse drug reactions that were considered causally related to clindamycin and observed in  $\geq 1\%$  of patients are presented below in **Table 1**. They are listed according to MedDRA system organ class.

**Table 1. Adverse Drug Reactions Occurring in  $\geq 1\%$  of Patients treated with clindamycin within the Original Clinical Trials**

<b>Adverse Reaction System Organ Class / Preferred Term</b>	<b>clindamycin Total N=1787<sup>1</sup> n (%)</b>
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b> Diarrhea	26 (1.45)
<b>Investigations</b> Liver function test abnormal	66 (3.7)
<b>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</b> Rash maculopapular	21 (1.18)

<sup>1</sup>clindamycin hydrochloride capsules N=851; clindamycin granules for oral solution N=340; clindamycin phosphate injection N=596

Less common adverse drug reactions that were considered causally related to clindamycin and observed in  $< 1\%$  of patients are listed below.

*Blood and lymphatic system disorders:* Eosinophilia

*Gastrointestinal disorders:* Nausea, abdominal pain and vomiting.

*General disorders and administration site conditions:* Local irritation, pain, abscess formation have been seen with IM injection.

*Nervous system disorders:* Dysgeusia

*Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:* Urticaria, erythema multiforme and pruritus.

### Post-Market Adverse Drug Reactions

Additional adverse events which have been reported in temporal association with clindamycin formulations (clindamycin capsules, clindamycin granules for oral solution and clindamycin injection) since market introduction are listed below. Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be established.

*Blood and lymphatic system disorders:* Agranulocytosis, leucopenia, neutropenia and thrombocytopenia. In clindamycin/primaquine combination studies, serious hematologic toxicities (grade III, grade IV neutropenia or anemia, platelet counts < 50 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L, or methemoglobin levels of 15% or greater) have been observed.

*Cardiac disorders:* Cardio-respiratory arrest and hypotension have been seen with rapid intravenous administration.

*Gastrointestinal disorders:* Colitis and pseudomembranous colitis. *Clostridium difficile*-associated disease (CDAD) has been observed and may manifest as a range of symptoms varying from watery diarrhea to fatal colitis, the onset of which may occur during or after antibacterial treatment (see **WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS**). Esophagitis and esophageal ulcer have been reported with the oral formulations.

*General disorders and administration site conditions:* Injection site irritation and thrombophlebitis. These reactions can be minimized by deep IM injection and avoidance of indwelling intravenous catheters.

*Hepatobiliary disorders:* Jaundice

*Immune system disorders:* Generalized mild to moderate morbilliform-like skin rashes, anaphylactoid reactions and drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS).

*Musculoskeletal:* Polyarthrititis

*Renal and urinary disorders:* Renal dysfunction as evidenced by azotemia, oliguria and/or proteinuria

*Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders:* Toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN), Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS), erythema multiforme, dermatitis exfoliative, dermatitis bullous, dermatitis vesiculobullous, rash morbilliform, vaginal infection, vaginitis, acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP).

*Vascular disorders:* Thrombophlebitis has been seen with rapid intravenous administration.

## **DRUG INTERACTIONS**

### **Overview**

Clindamycin is metabolized predominantly by CYP3A4, and to a lesser extent CYP3A5, to the major metabolite clindamycin sulfoxide and minor metabolite, N-desmethylclindamycin. Therefore inhibitors of CYP3A4 and CYP3A5 may reduce clindamycin clearance and inducers of these isoenzymes may increase clindamycin clearance.

In vitro studies indicate that clindamycin does not inhibit CYP1A2, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, CYP2E1, or CYP2D6 and only moderately inhibits CYP3A4. Therefore, clinically important interactions between clindamycin and coadministered drugs metabolized by these CYP enzymes are unlikely.

Clindamycin has been shown to have neuromuscular blocking properties and potential antagonism with erythromycin and aminoglycosides (see **Table 2**).

In a clindamycin/primaquine combination study, serious hematologic toxicities have been observed, but



the contribution of clindamycin, if any, is unknown (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS**).

### Drug-Drug Interactions

The drugs listed in this table are based on either drug interaction case reports or studies, or potential interactions due to the expected magnitude and seriousness of the interaction.

**Table 2 - Established or Potential Drug-Drug Interactions**

Proper Name	Ref	Effect	Clinical Comment
Neuromuscular blocking agents Examples include: atracurium, doxacurium, pancuronium, vecuronium	<b>CS</b>	Clindamycin has been shown to have neuromuscular blocking properties that may enhance the action of other neuromuscular blocking agents.	Use with caution in patients receiving these agents concurrently.
aminoglycosides	<b>T</b>	Clindamycin is reported to antagonize bactericidal activity of aminoglycosides in vitro. In vivo antagonism has not been demonstrated.	
erythromycin	<b>T</b>	Antagonism has been demonstrated between clindamycin and erythromycin in vitro. Clindamycin and erythromycin may compete for the same protein binding site in bacteria.	Due to possible clinical significance the two drugs should not be administered concurrently.
Inhibitors of CYP3A4, CYP3A5	<b>T</b>	Clearance of clindamycin may be reduced.	
Inducers of CYP3A4, CYP3A5	<b>T</b>	Clearance of clindamycin may be increased.	Monitor for loss of effectiveness.

Legend: C = Case Study; CT = Clinical Trial; T = Theoretical

### Drug-Food Interactions

Interactions with food have not been established.

### Drug-Herb Interactions

Efficacy of clindamycin should be closely monitored in patients using concomitant St. John's wort, a CYP3A4 inducer.

### Drug-Laboratory Interactions

Interactions with laboratory tests have not been established.

## DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

### Dosing Considerations

CLINDAMYCIN dose modification may not be necessary in patients with renal disease. CLINDAMYCIN dosage modification is not necessary in patients with hepatic insufficiency. Dosage adjustments are not necessary in the elderly with normal hepatic function and normal (age-adjusted) renal function.

### Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment

**Adults:** 150 mg every 6 hours.  
**Moderately severe infections:** 300 mg every 6 hours.  
**Severe infections:** 450 mg every 6 hours.

**Children** (for children weighing  $\geq 40$  pounds (18.2 Kg) **and** able to swallow):

One of the following two dosage ranges should be selected depending on the severity of the infection:

1. 8-16 mg/kg/day (4-8 mg/lb/day).
2. 16-20 mg/kg/day (8-10 mg/lb/day).
3. 17-25 mg/kg/day (8.5-12.5 mg/lb/day)

Severity of the infection	Mild	Moderate	Severe
Weight in pounds (weight in Kg)	4-6 mg/lb/day (8-12 mg/kg/day)	6.5-8.0 mg/lb/day (13-16 mg/kg/day)	8.5-12.5 mg/lb/day (17-25 mg/kg/day )
22-40 ( 10-18.2 Kg)	*	*	*
>40-55 (>18.2-25 Kg)	*	*	150 mg q. 8h.
>55-75 (>25-34 Kg)	*	150 mg q. 8h.	150 mg q. 6h.
>75-100 (>34-45.5 Kg)	150 mg q. 8h.	150 mg q. 6h	300 mg q. 8h
>100 (> 45.5 Kg) use adult dosage	150 mg q. 6h.	300 mg q. 6h	450 mg q. 6h

\* Other appropriate dosage form may be used.

**Pneumocystis jiroveci pneumonia in patients with AIDS:**

CLINDAMYCIN (clindamycin hydrochloride) 300-450 mg may be given orally every 6 hours in combination with 15-30 mg of primaquine for 21 days. Alternatively, CLINDAMYCIN PHOSPHATE (clindamycin phosphate) 600-900 mg (IV) may be given every 6 hours or 900 mg (IV) every 8 hours in combination with oral daily dose of 15-30 mg of primaquine. If patients should develop serious hematologic adverse effects, reducing the dosage regimen of primaquine and/or APO-CLINDAMYCIN capsule should be considered.

### **For prevention of endocarditis**

**Adults:** 300 mg orally 1 hour before procedure; then 150 mg 6 hours after initial dose.

**Children:** Refer to other dosage form, because the capsules may not be suitable. Use of the appropriate dosage form may be necessary.

Note: With  $\beta$ -hemolytic streptococcal infections, treatment should continue for at least 10 days to diminish the likelihood of subsequent rheumatic fever or glomerulonephritis.

### **Missed Dose**

If a dose is missed, it should be taken as soon as remembered unless it is almost time for the next dose. The dose should not be doubled to make up for a missed dose.

### **Administration**

Absorption of CLINDAMICYN is not appreciably modified by ingestion of food and the capsules may be taken with meals.

To avoid the possibility of esophageal irritation, CLINDAMICYN capsules should be taken with a full glass of water.

### **OVERDOSAGE**

Activated charcoal may be administered to aid in the removal of unabsorbed drug. General supportive measures are recommended.

No cases of overdosage have been reported. It would be expected however, that should overdosage occur, gastrointestinal side effects including abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea might be seen. During clinical trials one 3-year old child was given 100 mg/kg of clindamycin hydrochloride for five days and showed mild abdominal pain and diarrhea. One 13-year old patient was given 75 mg/kg for five days with no side effects. In both cases laboratory values remained normal.

Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis are not effective means of removing the compound from the blood. No specific antidote is known.

The average biological half-life of clindamycin is 2.4 hours.

For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional Poison Control Centre.
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## **ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**

### **Mechanism of Action**

Clindamycin exerts its antibacterial effect by causing cessation of protein synthesis and also causing a reduction in the rate of synthesis of nucleic acids.

The mechanism of action of clindamycin in combination with primaquine on *Pneumocystis jiroveci* is not known.

### **Pharmacodynamics**

(see **MICROBIOLOGY**)

### **Pharmacokinetics**

#### **Absorption:**

Clindamycin is rapidly and almost completely (90%) absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract in man and peak serum levels are seen in about 45 minutes. The average peak serum level following a single 150 mg dose in adults is 2.74 mcg/mL. Therapeutically effective average levels of 0.73 mcg/mL are found at 6 hours after a 150 mg dose.

The absorption of clindamycin is not appreciably affected by food intake. Peak serum levels following a single 250 mg oral dose of clindamycin with the patient in the fasting state were 3.1 mcg/mL at 45 minutes whereas the same dose administered with food gave a peak level of 2.4 mcg/mL. A 250 mg dose administered one hour after food gave a peak level of 2.8 mcg/mL but this peak did not occur until two hours after administration of the medication. A 250 mg dose with the patient in a fasting state and with food administered one hour after the medication resulted in peak levels of 3.1 mcg/mL at 12 hours.

#### **Distribution:**

Clindamycin binds primarily to alpha-1-acid glycoprotein. Protein binding is concentration dependent, ranging from 60% to 94% at therapeutic serum concentrations.

In three patients following the administration of 150 mg of clindamycin serum levels reached 2.25mcg/mL in 2 hours and declined to 1.5 mcg/ mL at 4 hours. During this period antibiotic synovial fluid levels were 1 mcg/mL at 2 hours and remained unchanged for the next and last 2 hours of observation.

Clindamycin is widely distributed in body fluids and tissues. Serum levels are rapidly attained as noted above. Tissue levels of clindamycin have been determined in various tissues in adult patients undergoing surgical procedures as noted in Table 3.

Clindamycin does not cross the blood-brain-barrier even in the presence of inflamed meninges.

**Table 3**

Specimen	No. of Specimens	Average Serum Level	Average Fluid Level (mcg/mL)	Tissue Level (mcg/mL)
Pancreatic fluid (C6-264)	4	1.15	45.1	
Bile (C6-264)	19	3.35	52.45	
Gall Bladder (C6-24)	16	0.81		4.33
Liver (C6-265)	1	42.35		3.80
Kidney (C6-265)	1	1.50		9.07
Bone (C4-390)	2	2.44		9.91

**Metabolism:**

In vitro studies in human liver and intestinal microsomes indicated clindamycin is predominantly oxidized by CYP3A4, with minor contribution from CYP3A5, to form clindamycin sulfoxide and a minor metabolite, N-desmethylclindamycin.

**Excretion:**

The average elimination half-life is 2.4 hours. After oral administration of clindamycin hydrochloride, elimination half-life is increased to approximately 4.0 hours (range 3.4 –5.1 h) in the elderly compared to 3.2 hours (range 2.1 - 4.2 h) in younger adults.

The 48 hour urinary excretion of clindamycin in adults following a single dose of 150 mg represented 10.9% of the administered dose (range 4.8% to 12.8%). These measurements were made by bio-assay and both the percent recovered and the urinary concentration are quite variable. The urinary concentration following a single 50 mg dose of clindamycin in the first 24 hours ranged from 8 to 25 mcg/mL of urine.

Fecal excretion of clindamycin has also been determined. Patients on a three week study when administered 1 gram of clindamycin per day had an average of 283 mcg/gm of stool. Patients on lincomycin 2 grams per day under the same conditions showed 3980 mcg/gm of stool. In single dose studies following administration of 250 mg of clindamycin, only 2.7% of the dose was excreted in the feces in 48-96 hours.

***Special Populations and Conditions***

Geriatrics: Pharmacokinetic studies with clindamycin have shown no clinically important differences between young and elderly subjects with normal hepatic function and normal (age-adjusted) renal function after oral or intravenous administration.

**STORAGE AND STABILITY**

***Temperature:***

Store at controlled room temperature (15 °C -30 °C).

***Other:***

Keep in a safe place out of the reach and sight of children.

**SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS**

There are no special handling instructions.

**DOSAGE FORMS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING**

CLINDAMYCIN (Clindamycin Hydrochloride) 150 mg: Each hard gelatin capsule with maroon cap and lavender body, imprinted "APO 150" contains 150 mg of clindamycin base. Supplied in bottles of 100 and 500, and unit dose packages of 100. Nonmedicinal ingredients: stearic acid, talc, and gelatin capsule shells (Caps # 3 Lavender body and Maroon cap).

CLINDAMYCIN (Clindamycin Hydrochloride) 300 mg: Each hard gelatin capsule with light blue cap and body imprinted "APO 300" contains 300 mg of clindamycin base. Supplied in bottles of 100 and 500, and unit dose packages of 100. Nonmedicinal ingredients: stearic acid, talc, and gelatin capsule shells (Caps # 1 Light Blue body and Light Blue cap).

The edible ink on the capsule shell contains the non-medicinal ingredients: shellac glaze-45% (20% esterified), titanium dioxide, ammonium hydroxide 28%, propylene glycol and simethicone.

## PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

### PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION

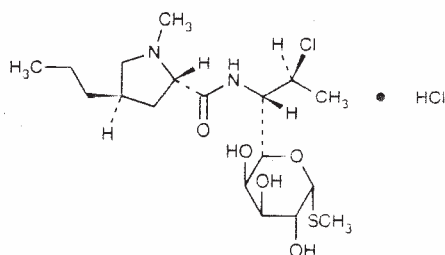
#### Drug Substance

Proper/Common Name: Clindamycin hydrochloride USP

Chemical Name(s): 1) *L-threo-a-D-galacto*-Octopyranoside, methyl 7-chloro-6,7,8-trideoxy-6-[[[(1 -methyl 4-propyl-2-pyrrolidiny)carbonyl]amino]-1 -thio-, (2*S-trans*) monohydrochloride

2) Methyl 7-chloro-6,7,8-trideoxy-6-(1 -methyl-*trans*-4-propyl-L-2-pyrrolidinecarboxamino)-1 -thio-*L-threo-a-D-galacto*-octopyranoside monohydrochloride.

Structural Formula:



Molecular Formula: C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>33</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S.HCl (anhydrous)

Molecular Weight: 461.44 g/mol (anhydrous), 479.46 g/mol (monohydrate)

Description: Clindamycin hydrochloride is the hydrated hydrochloride salt of clindamycin, a substance produced by the chlorination of lincomycin and is a white to almost white, crystalline powder. It is soluble in water, pyridine, ethanol and DMF (N,N- dimethylformamide). Clindamycin hydrochloride has a pH of 4.4, a pKa of 7.6, a partition coefficient of 185 and a melting point of 141-143°C.

## CLINICAL TRIALS

### Comparative Bioavailability

A comparative bioavailability study was performed using healthy human volunteers. The rate and extent of absorption of clindamycin was measured and compared following oral administration of CLINDAMYCIN or Dalacin<sup>®</sup> C (1x300 mg) capsules. The results from measured data are summarized as follows:

Summary Table of the Comparative Bioavailability Data Clindamycin (Dose: 1 x 300 mg) From Measured Data – Under Fasting Conditions Based on Clindamycin				
Parameter	Geometric Mean Arithmetic Mean (CV%)		Ratio of Geometric Means (%)**	90 % Confidence Interval (%)**
	CLINDAMYCIN	Dalacin <sup>®</sup> C†		
AUCT (mcg•hr/mL)	10.3 10.8 (34)	10.8 11.3 (32)	96.0	86.3-106.9
AUCI (mcg•hr/mL)	10.7 11.2 (38)	11.1 11.6 (32)	95.8	85.7-107.1
C <sub>max</sub> (mcg/m)	2.97 3.02 (20)	2.87 3.01 (34)	103.4	94.0-113.6
L T <sub>max</sub> (hr)*	0.73 (43)	0.89 (38)	-	-
t <sub>1/2</sub> (hr)*	2.44 (31)	2.61 (30)	-	-
* Arithmetic means (CV%).				
** Based on the least squares estimate.				
† Dalacin <sup>®</sup> C is manufactured by Pharmacia & Upjohn, and was purchased in Canada.				

The authorized indications were based on safety and efficacy clinical trials which were conducted with Clindamycin Hydrochloride.

### DETAILED PHARMACOLOGY

Three large multiple dose tolerance studies were conducted in normal volunteers.

One group of 216 volunteers took 1 gram per day or 2 grams per day of clindamycin for 4 weeks. The most frequent side effect noted was diarrhea in some volunteers, particularly at the 2 gram per day dose which is more than 3 times the recommended daily dose. With the exception of one patient who developed infectious hepatitis during the study, laboratory tests showed no significant aberrations considered drug related. Occasional patients developed elevated serum transaminase and serum alkaline phosphatase.



A second group of 150 volunteers was similarly treated and laboratory determinations were essentially normal. Audiograms were performed before, during and up to 90 days after treatment and showed no drug related changes.

A third group of 172 volunteers was evaluated in a comparison of lincomycin 500 mg q.i.d., ampicillin 250 mg q.i.d., clindamycin 150 mg q.i.d., and placebo. Subjects receiving ampicillin showed a peak incidence of moderate to mild diarrhea second only to lincomycin and greater than clindamycin during the first week of therapy, then demonstrated a drop in the incidence to placebo levels or below during the second and third week. Meanwhile, the incidence of diarrhea in both the lincomycin and the clindamycin groups remained slightly above that reported for the placebo group during the second and third weeks of therapy. One patient on lincomycin and one on clindamycin developed a rash. No drug related laboratory test abnormalities were noted.

Five volunteers were evaluated before and after treatment with clindamycin 500 mg q.i.d., for 10 days with reference to true or pseudo-cholinesterase levels. No abnormalities in these levels were noted.

## MICROBIOLOGY

In order to assess the significance of *in vitro* antibiotic activity against bacterial species, it is necessary to compare the organism's minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) to the defined susceptibility interpretive breakpoints for the antibiotic. **Table 4** identifies the currently-accepted MIC interpretative breakpoints for clindamycin.

The *in vitro* activity of clindamycin in combination with primaquine has not been determined.

Table 4: Susceptibility Interpretive Criteria for Clindamycin						
Pathogen	Susceptibility Interpretive Criteria					
	Minimal Inhibitory Concentrations (MIC in mcg/mL)			Disk Diffusion (Zone Diameters in mm)		
<i>Staphylococcus</i> spp.	S ≤ 0.50	I 1-2	R ≥ 4	S ≥21	I 15-20	R ≤14
<i>Streptococcus Pneumonia</i> and other <i>Streptococcus</i> spp.	≤ 0.25	0.5	≥ 1	≥19	16-18	≤15
Anaerobic bacteria	≤2	4	≥8	NA	NA	NA

The reported clindamycin MIC<sub>90</sub> value (i.e., the concentration of clindamycin that inhibits 90% of test isolates) was utilized as the most descriptive measure of clindamycin activity. Where the data from more than one study are summarized, the weighted average MIC<sub>90</sub> value was calculated to account for differences in the number of strains in each study.

The *in vitro* susceptibility of clinical isolates to clindamycin is presented in **Table 5** (gram-positive

aerobic bacteria), **Table 6** (gram-negative aerobic bacteria), **Table 7** (gram-positive anaerobic bacteria), **Table 8** (gram-negative anaerobic bacteria) and **Table 9** (*Chlamydia* spp and *Mycoplasma* spp).

<b>Table 5: <i>In vitro</i> activity of clindamycin against gram-positive aerobic bacteria<sup>a</sup></b>			
Organism	N <sup>b</sup>	MIC90 Range <sup>c</sup>	MIC90 <sup>d</sup>
<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	46	1	1
<i>Corynebacterium diphtheriae</i>	192	0.1	0.1
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	218	1-8	2.22
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (methicillin-susceptible)	286	0.12-2	0.50
<i>Staphylococcus saprophyticus</i>	57	0.12-0.25	0.16
<i>Streptococcus agalactia</i>	59	≤0.06-0.50	0.15
<i>Streptococcus bovis</i>	22	0.04	0.04
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> (penicillin-susceptible)	660	0.03-0.25	0.23
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	141	0.13-0.25	0.08
<i>Streptococcus</i> spp, Group B	38	≤0.12-0.25	0.15
<i>Streptococcus</i> spp, Group C	30	≤0.12-0.50	0.22
<i>Streptococcus</i> spp, Group G	34	0.06-0.50	0.31
<i>Streptococcus</i> spp, viridans Group (penicillin-susceptible)	67	≤0.06-1.6	0.53

a Clinical efficacy has not been established for some of these species  
b N, total number of isolates  
c Range of reported MIC90 values  
d MIC90 for single study or weighted average MIC90 for two or more studies

<b>Table 6: <i>In vitro</i> activity of clindamycin against gram-negative aerobic bacteria<sup>a</sup></b>			
Organism	N <sup>b</sup>	MIC90 Range <sup>c</sup>	MIC90 <sup>d</sup>
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	449	0.39-8	1.7
<i>Campylobacter fetus</i>	41	1-1.6	1.2
<i>Campylobacter coli</i>	31	0.50	0.50
<i>Gardnerella vaginalis</i>	156	≤0.06-0.39	0.3
<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>	47	2-3.1	2.6
<i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> (β-lactamase-negative)	77	4	4
<i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> (β-lactamase-positive)	54	2	2

a clinical efficacy has not been established for some of these species  
b N, total number of isolates  
c Range of reported MIC90 values  
d MIC90 for single study or weighted average MIC90 for two or more studies

<b>Table 7: <i>In vitro</i> activity of clindamycin against gram-positive anaerobic bacteria<sup>a</sup></b>			
Organism	N <sup>b</sup>	MIC90 Range <sup>c</sup>	MIC90 <sup>d</sup>
<i>Actinomyces israelii</i>	46	0.12	0.12
<i>Actinomyces</i> spp.	38	0.50-1	0.8
<i>Clostridium botulinum</i>	224	4	4
<i>Clostridium difficile</i>	191	4->256	57.7
<i>Clostridium novyi</i>	18	2	2
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	386	0.25-8	3.4
<i>Clostridium ramosum</i>	98	4-12.5	8.3
<i>Eubacterium</i> spp.	45	0.4-2	1.1
<i>Lactobacillus</i> spp.	88	0.50-1	0.8
<i>Peptostreptococcus anaerobes</i>	283	0.25-0.50	0.4
<i>Peptostreptococcus asaccharolyticus</i>	268	0.25-2	1.5
<i>Peptostreptococcus magnus</i>	90	2	2
<i>Peptostreptococcus prevotii</i>	87	0.12-4	2.9
<i>Peptostreptococcus tetradius</i>	28	0.5	0.5
Anaerobic gram-positive cocci	247	0.5-1	0.9
<i>Propionibacterium acnes</i>	267	0.10-0.25	0.2
<i>Propionibacterium</i> spp.	71	0.12-0.20	0.16

<sup>a</sup> clinical efficacy has not been established for some of these species  
<sup>b</sup> N, total number of isolates  
<sup>c</sup> Range of reported MIC90 values  
<sup>d</sup> MIC90 for single study or weighted average MIC90 for two or more studies

<b>Table 8: <i>In vitro</i> activity of clindamycin against gram-negative anaerobic bacteria<sup>a</sup></b>			
Organism	N <sup>b</sup>	MIC90 Range <sup>c</sup>	MIC90 <sup>d</sup>
<i>Bacteroides fragilis</i> group	4,284	0.5-8	2.45
<i>Bacteroides fragilis</i>	2,002	≤0.20-4	2.22
<i>Bacteroides melaninogenicus</i>	224	≤0.03-0.50	0.07
<i>Bacteroides</i> spp.	141	≤0.06-0.50	0.31
<i>Bacteroides bivius</i>	155	≤0.03-≤0.05	≤0.11
<i>Bacteroides disiens</i>	33	≤0.03-≤0.06	≤0.05
<i>Fusobacterium</i> spp.	330	≤0.10-2	0.85
<i>Mobiluncus mulieris</i>	10	0.06	0.06
<i>Mobiluncus curtisii</i>	12	0.12	0.12
<i>Veillonella</i> spp.	38	0.06-0.25	0.20

**Table 8: *In vitro* activity of clindamycin against gram-negative anaerobic bacteria<sup>a</sup>**

- <sup>a</sup> clinical efficacy has not been established for some of these species
- <sup>b</sup> N, total number of isolates
- <sup>c</sup> Range of reported MIC<sub>90</sub> values
- <sup>d</sup> MIC<sub>90</sub> for single study or weighted average MIC<sub>90</sub> for two or more studies

Clindamycin has demonstrated *in vitro* activity against *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Mycoplasma* spp (see **Table 9**). For *Chlamydia trachomatis*, the MIC<sub>90</sub> for clindamycin is reached at 2.3 µg/ mL; *in vitro* synergism with gentamycin has also been demonstrated.

**Table 9: *In vitro* activity of clindamycin against *Chlamydia* spp and *Mycoplasma* spp<sup>a</sup>**

Organism	N <sup>b</sup>	MIC <sub>90</sub> Range <sup>c</sup>	MIC <sub>90</sub> <sup>d</sup>
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i>	84	0.5-5.9	2.3
<i>Mycoplasma hominis</i>	106	0.25-0.8	0.58
<i>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</i>	9	4	4

- <sup>a</sup> clinical efficacy has not been established for some of these species
- <sup>b</sup> N, total number of isolates
- <sup>c</sup> Range of reported MIC<sub>90</sub> values
- <sup>d</sup> MIC<sub>90</sub> for single study or weighted average MIC<sub>90</sub> for two or more studies

Development of resistance to clindamycin by staphylococci is slow and stepwise rather than rapid and streptomycin-like. Clindamycin, like lincomycin, participates in the dissociated cross-resistance phenomenon with erythromycin. Clindamycin is not cross-resistant with penicillin, ampicillin, tetracycline or streptomycin. It is, however, cross-resistant with lincomycin.

Resistance to clindamycin may occur by one of several mechanisms. Resistance does not appear to be caused by reduced drug uptake but rather is generally due to alterations in the bacterial target site (50S ribosomal subunit). Resistance can result from either changes in a ribosomal protein at the receptor site or a change in the 23S ribosomal RNA by methylation of adenine. Rare isolates of staphylococci and some veterinary isolates of streptococci may enzymatically inactivate clindamycin by adenylation. Plasmid-mediated transferable resistance to clindamycin (and erythromycin) in *B. fragilis* was reported in 1979. Despite the existence of multiple resistance mechanisms, the reported incidence of clindamycin resistance in the *B. fragilis* group has remained relatively low (averaging 5.3% from 1970-1987 in over 7,600 isolates). Susceptibility of isolates to clindamycin should be assessed by individual MIC determinations.

## TOXICOLOGY

### Animal

The results of acute toxicity studies are shown in **Table 10**:

<b>Table 9: Animal LD50 Results</b>		
<b>Species</b>	<b>Route</b>	<b>LD50 (mg/kg)</b>
<b>Adult mouse</b>	I.P.	262
<b>Adult mouse</b>	I.V.	143
<b>Adult rat</b>	ORAL	2714
<b>Adult rat</b>	S.C.	2618
<b>Newborn rat</b>	S.C.	245

Legend: i.p = intraperitoneal , i.v = intravenous and s.c.= subcutaneous

The following subacute and chronic animal toxicology was performed:

### **5 Day Oral Tolerance Study in Rats**

500 mg/kg was administered to rats with no drug related toxicity noted except that all rats developed diarrhea at this dose level.

### **5 Day Oral Tolerance Study in the Dog**

Doses of 113 mg/kg and 500 mg/kg were administered. The higher dose was vomited 1-2 hours after administration but otherwise no abnormalities of a drug-related nature were noted.

### **6 Month Subacute Oral Toxicity in the Rat**

Clindamycin, at doses of 30, 100 and 300 mg/kg, was given to groups of 20 rats daily for 6 months. Data obtained after one month were normal. Similarly, data at the end of 6 months showed no drug related effects. A fourth group of 20 rats received a dose of 600 mg/kg for 3 months and also showed the drug to be well tolerated by male and female rats without any drug related effects.

### **1 Month Subacute Oral Toxicity in the Dog**

Clindamycin, at doses of 30, 100 and 300 mg/kg, was given to 3 groups of 6 dogs with a comparable group of 6 dogs as a control. All dogs were healthy and all dose levels well tolerated.

Fluctuations in the serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase values were seen in the 300 mg/kg group after 2 weeks therapy. Less fluctuation was seen in the SGOT levels and other tests of hepatic function did not reflect the adaptive metabolic change which these elevated transaminase values are believed to show. Two dogs in each group were sacrificed and no drug related lesions were found upon complete necropsy and microscopic observations on these dogs.

### **1 Year Chronic Oral Toxicity in the Rat**

Doses of 0, 30, 100 and 300 mg/kg were administered daily to rats for one year and 600 mg/kg for 6 months. As expected, mortality did occur due to coincidental disease and the group at 600 mg/kg had a higher mortality rate although no definitive drug related findings were noted.

## **1 Year Chronic Oral Toxicity in the Dog**

Dogs were administered clindamycin at doses of 0, 30, 100 and 300 mg/kg for 1 year. Some dose related elevations of serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase values were seen during the 7th to 9th month of this study, but periodic liver biopsies examined by light and electron microscopy did not disclose any hepatic cell damage. All other data noted no drug related changes.

## **Teratogenic and Reproductive Studies in the Rat**

Teratology evaluation of 20-day rat foetuses was made and no evidence of teratogenic effect was noted. Treated rat dams gave birth to normal litters and no evidence was obtained that clindamycin affected the fecundity of the dam or the development of the offspring.

Oral and subcutaneous reproductive toxicity studies in rats and rabbits revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus due to clindamycin, except at doses that caused maternal toxicity.

In oral embryo fetal development studies in rats and subcutaneous embryo fetal development studies in rats and rabbits, no developmental toxicity was observed except at doses that produced maternal toxicity.

## **Teratogenic and Reproductive Studies in the Mouse**

Clindamycin, in doses of 20, 50 and 200 mg/kg, was administered to pregnant mice from day 6 through day 15 of gestation. At the 200 mg/kg level there was pronounced expected toxicity associated with a 40% mortality. Similarly, at this toxic level there was increased foetal loss. Litter size, litter weight and mean pup weight were significantly reduced. At the 200 mg/kg level there was an increased incidence of major malformations which is thought to be due to malnutrition of the dam as a result of this toxic dose of the drug.

## **Carcinogenesis**

Long term studies in animals have not been performed with clindamycin to evaluate carcinogenic potential.

## **Mutagenesis**

Genotoxicity tests performed included a rat micronucleus test and an Ames Salmonella reversion test. Both tests were negative.

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**PART III: CONSUMER INFORMATION**

**Pr CLINDAMYCIN  
(Clindamycin Hydrochloride Capsules USP)  
Clindamycin 150 mg and 300 mg**

**Antibiotic**

This leaflet is designed specifically for Consumers. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about CLINDAMYCIN. Contact your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about the drug.

**ABOUT THIS MEDICATION**

**What the medication is used for:**

CLINDAMYCIN is used for:

- the treatment of serious bacterial infections; and
- the prevention of serious bacterial infections in patients undergoing surgery .

**What it does:**

Clindamycin interferes with protein synthesis in bacteria, thereby preventing growth and killing the bacteria causing your infection.

**When it should not be used:**

Do not use CLINDAMYCIN if:

- You have a history of hypersensitivity (allergies) to preparations including clindamycin or lincomycin or to any ingredient in the formulation or component of the container (see what the non-medicinal ingredients are).

**What the medicinal ingredient is:**

Clindamycin hydrochloride USP

**What the non-medicinal ingredients are:**

Stearic acid, talc; capsule shell: gelatin, titanium dioxide and FD&C Blue #1(150 mg and 300 mg) FD&C Red #40, D&C Red #33, D&C Red #28, and FD&C Yellow #5 (150 mg).

The edible ink on the capsule shell contains the non-medicinal ingredients: shellac glaze-45% (20% esterified), titanium dioxide, ammonium hydroxide 28%, propylene glycol and simethicone.

**What dosage forms it comes in:**

150 mg and 300 mg capsules

**WARNING AND PRECAUTIONS**

**BEFORE** you use CLINDAMYCIN talk to your doctor or pharmacist if:

- You have a history of intestinal disorders such as colitis (inflammation of the colon), or inflammatory bowel disease.
- You have diarrhea or usually get diarrhea when you take antibiotics or have ever suffered from problems with your stomach or intestines (e.g. bowel disease, colitis).
- You suffer from problems with your kidneys or liver.
- You have glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G-6-PD) deficiency and taking primaquine. You need to have routine blood tests while taking CLINDAMYCIN with primaquine to monitor for potential blood cell changes.
- You are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. Clindamycin passes to the human fetus.
- You are breastfeeding or planning to breastfeed. Clindamycin is passed to the infant through human breast milk. Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants, clindamycin should not be taken by nursing mothers

**INTERACTIONS WITH THIS MEDICATION**

**Drugs that may interact with CLINDAMYCIN include:**

Some medicines can affect the way this medicine works, or the medicine itself can reduce the effectiveness of other medicines taken at the same time. These include:

- Erythromycin (an antibiotic).
- Muscle relaxants used for operations.
- Aminoglycosides (a class of antibiotics)
- Primaquine (antimalarial)
- St. John’s wort

Tell your doctor if you are taking or being administered any other topical or oral medication, including erythromycin or neuromuscular blocking agents.

**PROPER USE OF THIS MEDICATION**

Your doctor will assess for your child’s ability to swallow CLINDAMYCIN capsules. If the child is unable to reliably swallow a capsule, CLINDAMYCIN capsule should not be used. Your doctor will recommend a suitable dosage form for your child.

Take your medicine (or give the medicine to your child) as your doctor has told you. If you are not sure, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

**Treatment of infection:**

**Adults Dose:**

150 mg to 450 mg by mouth every 6 hours depending on the severity of infection.

**Child dose (for children weighing ≥ 40 pounds (18.2 Kg) and able to swallow):**

**IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ**

One of the following dosage ranges should be selected depending on the severity of the infection:

- 8-12 mg/kg/day (4-6 mg/lb/day)
- 13-16 mg/kg/day (6.5-8.0 mg/lb/day)
- 17-25 mg/kg/day (8.5-12.5 mg/lb/day)

Severity of the infection	Mild	Moderate	Severe
Weight in pounds (weight in Kg)	4-6 mg/lb/day (8-12 mg/kg/day)	6.5-8.0 mg/lb/day (13-16 mg/kg/day)	8.5-12.5 mg/lb/day (17-25 mg/kg/day)
22-40 (10-18.2 Kg)	*	*	*
>40-55 (>18.2-25 Kg)	*	*	150 mg q. 8h.
>55-75 (>25-34 Kg)	*	150 mg q. 8h.	150 mg q. 6h.
>75-100 (>34-45.5 Kg)	150 mg q. 8h.	150 mg q. 6h	300 mg q. 8h
>100 (>45.5 Kg) use adult dosage	150 mg q. 6h.	300 mg q. 6h	450 mg q. 6h

\* Other appropriate dosage forms may be used.

Keep taking this medicine for the full time of treatment, even if you (or your child) begin to feel better after a few days.

**Prevention of infection (patients undergoing surgery):**

**Adult dose:**

300 mg by mouth at 1 hour before procedure; then 150 mg at 6 hours after the first dose.

**Child dose (for children weighing ≥ 40 pounds (18.2 Kg) and able to swallow):**

Refer to other dosage form, because the capsules may not be suitable. Use of the appropriate dosage form may be necessary.

The capsules should be taken with a full glass of water to avoid throat irritation. The capsules can be taken with or without food.

**Long term use of CLINDAMYCIN**

If you have to take CLINDAMYCIN for a long time, your doctor may arrange regular liver, kidney and blood tests. Do not miss these check-ups with your doctor. Long term use can also make you more likely to get other infections that do not respond to CLINDAMYCIN treatment.

**Taking CLINDAMYCIN with primaquine**

Patients with G-6-PD deficiency taking the combination of clindamycin and primaquine should have routine blood examinations during therapy with primaquine to monitor for potential blood cell changes.

**Taking CLINDAMYCIN with food and drink**

The capsules may be taken either before or after a meal.

**REMEMBER: This medication is for YOU. Never give it to others. It may harm them even if their symptoms are the same as yours.**

**Overdose:**

In case of drug overdose, contact your doctor, hospital emergency department or regional Poison Centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

**Missed Dose:**

If you missed a dose of this medication, take it as soon as you remember. This will help to keep a constant amount of medication in your blood. But, if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and continue with your next scheduled dose. Do not take two doses at the same time.

**If you stop taking CLINDAMYCIN**

If you stop taking the medicine too soon your infection may come back again or get worse.

Do not stop taking CLINDAMYCIN unless your doctor tells you to. If you have any further questions on how to take this product, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

**SIDE EFFECTS AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM**

Like all medicines, CLINDAMYCIN can cause side effects, these include:

- Reddening of the skin, skin rash, itching, hives

**IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ**

- Throat ulcers, sore throat, feeling sick, being sick, stomach pain and diarrhea
- Reduced numbers of blood cells which may cause bruising or bleeding or weaken the immune system
- Vaginal infection of vaginitis (inflammation of the vagina)

**Tell your doctor immediately** if you develop:

- Signs of a severe allergic reaction such as sudden wheeziness, difficulty in breathing, swelling of eyelids, face or lips, rash or itching (especially affecting the whole body).
- Blistering and peeling of large areas of skin, fever, cough, feeling unwell and swelling of the gums, tongue or lips.
- Liver problem, yellowing of the skin and whites of the eyes (jaundice).
- Severe or persistent diarrhea (watery or bloody) with or without abdominal pain, nausea, fever or vomiting.

These may be symptoms of Clostridium difficile associated disease (bowel inflammation). This may happen months after the last dose of medication. If this occurs, stop taking **CLINDAMYCIN** and contact your doctor immediately.

If any of the side effects get serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

***This is not a complete list of side effects. For any unexpected effects while taking CLINDAMYCIN, contact your doctor or pharmacist.***

<b>Serious side effects and what to do about them</b>			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
<b>RARE</b> Nausea, abdominal pain Vomiting Skin reactions : itching	√	√ √	
Signs of a severe allergic reaction such as sudden wheeziness, difficulty in breathing, swelling of eyelids, face or lips, rash or itching (especially affecting the whole body)			√

**HOW TO STORE IT**

Keep in a safe place out of the reach and sight of children. Store at room temperature (15°C to 30°C), away from heat and direct light.

Do not store in the fridge or freezer.

Do not store in the bathroom as moisture and heat can cause damage.

<b>Serious side effects and what to do about them</b>			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
<b>VERY COMMON</b> Liver Problem		√	√
<b>COMMON</b> Diarrhea Rash		√ √	

**Reporting Side Effects**

You can help improve the safe use of health products for Canadians by reporting serious and unexpected side effects to Health Canada. Your report may help to identify new side effects and change the product safety information.

3 ways to report:

- Online at MedEffect;
- By calling 1-866-234-2345 (toll-free);
- By completing a Consumer Side Effect Reporting Form and sending it by:
  - Fax to 1-866-678-6789 (toll-free), or
  - Mail to: Canada Vigilance Program  
Health Canada, Postal Locator 0701E  
Ottawa, ON  
K1A 0K9

Postage paid labels and the Consumer Side Effect Reporting Form are available at MedEffect.

*NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.*

**MORE INFORMATION**

For more information, please contact your doctor, pharmacist or other healthcare professional.

This document plus the full product monograph, prepared for health professionals, can be obtained by contacting:

Sanis Health Inc. at 1-866-236-4076

or via email at [quality@sanis.com](mailto:quality@sanis.com) .

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