

## PRODUCT MONOGRAPH

### **Pr <sup>®</sup>NRA-Clindamycin**

clindamycin hydrochloride capsules

clindamycin 150 mg & 300 mg

USP

Antibiotic

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## PrNRA-Clindamycin

Clindamycin hydrochloride Capsules  
150 mg and 300 mg

### PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

#### SUMMARY PRODUCT INFORMATION

Route of Administration	Dosage Form / Strength	All Nonmedicinal Ingredients
oral	capsule 150mg, 300mg	Ammonium hydroxide, corn starch, gelatin, iron oxide black, lactose, magnesium stearate, propylene glycol, shellac, talc, titanium dioxide

#### INDICATIONS AND CLINICAL USE

NRA-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.

NRA-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.

NRA-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.

NRA-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 NRA-Clindamycin and other antibacterial drugs, NRA-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**

NRA-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 NRA-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 NRA-Clindamycin capsule should be considered (see **DOSAGE and ADMINISTRATION**).

NRA-Clindamycin (clindamycin hydrochloride) should be prescribed with caution in atopic individuals.

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

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**

NRA-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 NRA-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 hypersensitivity reactions, including anaphylactoid reactions, severe skin reactions such

as 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**

NRA-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.

### **Susceptibility/Resistance**

Prescribing NRA-Clindamycin in the absence of a proven or strongly suspected bacterial infection is unlikely to provide benefit to the patient and risks the development of drug-resistant bacteria.

### ***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, NRA-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 NRA-Clindamycin capsules. If a child is unable to reliably swallow a capsule, NRA-Clindamycin capsules 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  $< 50 \times 10^9/L$ , 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, anaphylactic shock, anaphylactoid reactions anaphylactic reaction, hypersensitivity, and drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS).

*Infections and infestations:* *Clostridium difficile* colitis

*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), angioedema.

*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-desmethyleclindamycin. Therefore inhibitors of CYP3A4 and CYP3A5 may reduce clindamycin clearance and inducers of these isoenzymes may increase clindamycin clearance. In the presence of strong CYP3A4 inducers such as rifampin, monitor for loss of effectiveness.

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	CS	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	T	Clindamycin is reported to antagonize bactericidal activity of aminoglycosides in vitro. In vivo antagonism has not been demonstrated.	
erythromycin	T	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	T	Clearance of clindamycin may be reduced.	
Inducers of CYP3A4, CYP3A5	T	Clearance of clindamycin may be increased.	Monitor for loss of effectiveness.
Strong inducers of CYP3A4 such as rifampin	CS and CT	Rifampin appears to dramatically decrease the serum clindamycin concentration.	Serum clindamycin levels and effectiveness should be carefully monitored. A clinically relevant effect of clindamycin on rifampin concentrations is not expected.

Legend: CS = 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

NRA-Clindamycin dose modification may not be necessary in patients with renal disease. NRA-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 three 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)

NRA-Clindamycin capsules are not suitable for children who are unable to swallow them whole. The capsules do not provide exact mg/kg doses therefore it may be necessary to use the clindamycin granules for oral solution in some cases.

Severity of the infection	Mild	Moderate	Severe
<b>Weight in pounds (weight in kg)</b>	<b>4-6 mg/lb/day (8-12 mg/kg/day)</b>	<b>6.5-8 mg/lb/day (13-16 mg/kg/day)</b>	<b>8.5-12.5 mg/lb/day (17-25 mg/kg/day)</b>
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**

NRA-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, DALACIN C 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 NRA-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 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 NRA-Clindamycin is not appreciably modified by ingestion of food and the capsules may be taken with meals.

To avoid the possibility of esophageal irritation, NRA-Clindamycin 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.

## **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 2.25 mcg/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**

<b>Specimen</b>	<b>No. of Specimens</b>	<b>Average Serum Level</b>	<b>Average Fluid Level mcg/mL</b>	<b>Tissue Level mcg/gm</b>
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		3.8
Kidney (C6-265)	1	1.5		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 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:*

NRA-Clindamycin (clindamycin hydrochloride) should be stored at controlled room temperature (15-30°C) in tightly closed container. Protect from moisture.

### *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

**150 mg:** Each hard gelatin white-white opaque capsule, size 1, imprinted with “CLIN 150” contains white to off-white crystalline powder. Medicinal Ingredient: clindamycin HCl is equivalent to 150 mg of clindamycin base. Nonmedicinal ingredients: cornstarch, lactose, magnesium stearate, talc and titanium dioxide. Capsule shell: ammonium hydroxide, gelatin, iron oxide black, propylene glycol, shellac. Bottles of 100 capsules.

**300 mg:** Each hard gelatin white-white opaque capsule, size 0el imprinted with “CLIN 300” contains white to off-white crystalline powder. Medicinal ingredient: clindamycin HCl is equivalent to 300 mg of clindamycin base. Nonmedicinal ingredients: cornstarch, lactose, magnesium stearate, talc and titanium dioxide. Capsule shell: ammonium hydroxide, gelatin, iron oxide black, propylene glycol, shellac. Bottles of 100 capsules.

## PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

### PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION

#### Drug Substance

Proper name: clindamycin hydrochloride

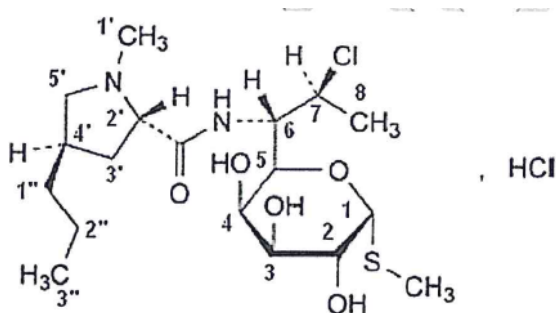
Chemical name:

1. (2*S-trans*)-methyl 7-chloro-6,7,8-trideoxy-6-[[[(1-methyl-4-propyl-2-pyrrolidinyl)carbonyl]amino]-1-thio-*L-threo-α-D-galacto*-octopyranoside monohydrochloride
2. methyl 7-chloro-6,7,8-trideoxy-6-(1-methyl-*trans*-4-propyl-*L*-2-pyrrolidinecarboxamido)-1-thio-*L-threo-α-D-galacto*-octopyranoside monohydrochloride

Molecular formula:  $C_{18}H_{33}ClN_2O_5S \cdot HCl$  (anhydrous)

Molecular mass: 461.44 (anhydrous), 479.46 (monohydrate)

Structural formula:



Physicochemical properties: Clindamycin hydrochloride is the hydrochloride salt form of clindamycin, a substance produced by the chlorination of lincomycin and is a yellow, amorphous solid. 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

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

## COMPARATIVE BIOAVAILABILITY STUDY

A single-dose, randomized, blinded, crossover, pivotal, comparative bioavailability study of NRA-Clindamycin (clindamycin hydrochloride) 300 mg capsules (Nora Pharma Inc.) and DALACIN™ C (clindamycin hydrochloride) 300 mg capsules (Pfizer Canada Inc.) administered as a 1 x 300 mg dose was conducted in 16 healthy, adult, male and female subjects under fasting conditions. The summary of results is presented in the following table.

SUMMARY TABLE OF THE COMPARATIVE BIOAVAILABILITY DATA

Clindamycin (1 x 300 mg) From measured data				
Geometric Mean Arithmetic Mean (CV %)				
Parameter	Test*	Reference†	% Ratio of Geometric Means	Confidence Interval
AUC <sub>T</sub> (ng.h/mL)	12162.80 13205.46 (37.00)	13066.73 14203.64 (36.54)	93.08	83.55 – 103.70
AUC <sub>I</sub> (ng.h/mL)	13114.49 14293.95 (40.27)	14007.17 15225.50 (37.70)	93.63	82.82 – 105.85
C <sub>max</sub> (ng/mL)	4030.80 4155.04 (24.76)	3944.90 4153.28 (32.44)	102.18	92.52 – 112.84
T <sub>max</sub> <sup>§</sup> (h)	0.67 (0.50 – 2.00)	0.92 (0.67 - 1.67)		
T <sub>1/2</sub> <sup>€</sup> (h)	2.94 (49.06)	2.71 (38.17)		

\* NRA-Clindamycin (clindamycin hydrochloride) 300 mg capsules (Nora Pharma Inc., Canada)

† DALACIN™ C (clindamycin hydrochloride) 300 mg capsules (Pfizer Canada Inc., Canada) were purchased in Canada.

§ Presented as median (range) only.

€ Expressed as the arithmetic mean (CV%) only.

## 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.	<b>S</b> ≤ 0.5	<b>I</b> 1–2	<b>R</b> ≥ 4	<b>S</b> ≥ 21	<b>I</b> 15–20	<b>R</b> ≤ 14
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> and other <i>Streptococcus</i> spp.	≤ 0.25	0.5	≥ 1	≥ 19	16–18	≤ 15
Anaerobic Bacteria	≤ 2	4	≥ 8	NA	NA	NA

NA = not applicable

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).

Organism	N <sup>b</sup>	MIC <sub>90</sub> Range <sup>c</sup>	MIC <sub>90</sub> <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	0.5
<i>Staphylococcus saprophyticus</i>	57	0.12-0.25	0.16
<i>Streptococcus agalactia</i>	59	≤ 0.06-0.5	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	≤ 0.12-0.5	0.22
<i>Streptococcus</i> spp, Group G	34	0.06-0.5	0.31
<i>Streptococcus</i> spp, viridans Group (penicillin-susceptible)	67	≤ 0.06-1.6	0.53

<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

<b>Organism</b>	<b>N<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>MIC<sub>90</sub></b>	<b>MIC<sub>90</sub><sup>d</sup></b>
<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	0.5	0.5
<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

<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

<b>Organism</b>	<b>N<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>MIC<sub>90</sub></b>	<b>MIC<sub>90</sub><sup>d</sup></b>
<i>Actinomyces israelii</i>	46	0.12	0.12
<i>Actinomyces</i> spp	38	0.5-1	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	0.5-1	0.8
<i>Peptostreptococcus anaerobes</i>	283	0.25-0.5	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	0.1-0.25	0.2
<i>Propionibacterium</i> spp	71	0.12-0.2	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 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

<b>Table 8: <i>In vitro</i> activity of clindamycin against gram-negative anaerobic bacteria<sup>a</sup></b>			
<b>Organism</b>	<b>N<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>MIC<sub>90</sub> Range<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>MIC<sub>90</sub><sup>d</sup></b>
<i>Bacteroides fragilis</i> group	4,284	0.5-8	2.45
<i>Bacteroides fragilis</i>	2,002	≤ 0.2-4	2.22
<i>Bacteroides melaninogenicus</i>	224	≤ 0.03-0.5	0.07
<i>Bacteroides</i> spp	141	≤ 0.06-0.5	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	≤ 0.1-2	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	0.2

<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 gentamicin has also been demonstrated.

<b>Table 9: <i>In vitro</i> activity of clindamycin against <i>Chlamydia</i> spp and <i>Mycoplasma</i> spp<sup>a</sup></b>			
<b>Organism</b>	<b>N<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>MIC<sub>90</sub> Range<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>MIC<sub>90</sub><sup>d</sup></b>
<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:

**TABLE 10**  
Animal LD<sub>50</sub> Results

Species	Route	LD <sub>50</sub> (mg/kg)
Adult mouse	IP	262
Adult mouse	IV	143
Adult rat	Oral	2714
Adult rat	SC	2618
Newborn rat	SC	245

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 and Rabbit**

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: PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

### <sup>Pr</sup>NRA-Clindamycin

#### Clindamycin hydrochloride Capsules 150 mg, 300 mg

Read this carefully before you start taking NRA-Clindamycin and each time you get a refill. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this drug. Talk to your healthcare professional about your medical condition and treatment and ask if there is any new information about NRA-Clindamycin.

Antibacterial drugs like NRA-Clindamycin treat only bacterial infections. They do not treat viral infections such as the common cold. Although you may feel better early in treatment, NRA-Clindamycin should be taken exactly as directed. Misuse or overuse of NRA-Clindamycin could lead to the growth of bacteria that will not be killed by NRA-Clindamycin (resistance). This means that NRA-Clindamycin may not work for you in the future. Do not share your medicine.

#### What NRA-Clindamycin is used for?

NRA-Clindamycin is used:

- To treat serious infections caused by germs.
- To help prevent serious infections during and after surgery.

#### How does NRA-Clindamycin work?

NRA-Clindamycin prevents the growth of germs (bacteria) causing your infection.

#### What are the ingredients in NRA-Clindamycin?

Medicinal ingredients: Clindamycin hydrochloride.

Non-medicinal ingredients: cornstarch, lactose, magnesium stearate, talc and titanium dioxide.

#### NRA-Clindamycin comes in the following dosage forms:

150 mg and 300 mg capsules

#### Do not use NRA-Clindamycin if:

- You are allergic (hypersensitive) to
  - Clindamycin
  - Lincomycin
  - Other ingredients in the product (see list of non-medicinal ingredients)

To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take NRA-Clindamycin. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including 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 NRA-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.
- You have intolerance to some milk sugars. NRA-Clindamycin capsules contain lactose.

**Other warnings you should know about:**

**Long term use of NRA-Clindamycin**

If you have to take NRA-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 NRA-Clindamycin treatment.

**Taking NRA-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.

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

**Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take, including any drugs, vitamins, minerals, natural supplements or alternative medicines.**

**The following may interact with NRA-Clindamycin:**

- Erythromycin (an antibiotic)
- Rifampin (an antibiotic)
- Muscle relaxants used for operations
- Aminoglycosides (a class of antibiotics)
- Primaquine (antimalarial)
- St. John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)

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

**How to take NRA-Clindamycin:**

Your doctor will assess for your child's ability to swallow NRA-Clindamycin capsules. If the child is unable to reliably swallow a capsule, NRA-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.

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

**Usual dose:**

**Treatment of infection:**

Adult dose:

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

Child dose (for children weighing  $\geq 40$  pounds (18.2 kg) and able to swallow):

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 mg/lb/day)
- 17-25 mg/kg/day (8.5-12.5 mg/lb/day)

Severity of the infection	Mild	Moderate	Severe
<b>Weight in pounds (weight in kg)</b>	<b>4-6 mg/lb/day (8-12 mg/kg/day)</b>	<b>6.5-8 mg/lb/day (13-16 mg/kg/day)</b>	<b>8.5-12.5 mg/lb/day (17-25 mg/kg/day)</b>
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

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  $\geq 40$  pounds (18.2 kg) and able to swallow):

10 mg per kg by mouth at 1 hour before procedure; then 5 mg/kg at 6 hours after the first dose.

**If you stop taking NRA-Clindamycin**

If you stop taking the medicine too soon your infection may come back again or get worse. Do not stop taking **NRA-Clindamycin** unless your doctor tells you to.

If you have any further questions on how to take this product, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

**Overdose:**

If you think you have taken too much NRA-Clindamycin, contact your healthcare professional, hospital emergency department or regional Poison Control 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.

**What are possible side effects from using NRA-Clindamycin?**

NRA-Clindamycin can cause side effects such as:

- skin reddening, rash, itching, hives
- feeling sick, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain
- sore throat, throat sores
- low red blood cells (anemia) with symptoms such as bruising, bleeding
- low white blood cells (neutropenia) which can lead to more infections
- vaginal infection or vaginitis (inflamed vagina)

Contact your doctor immediately if the following happens:

- You have a severe allergic reaction with symptoms 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
- Swelling of the gums, tongue or lips
- You have liver problems with symptoms such as:
  - yellowing of the skin and whites of the eyes (jaundice).
- You have *Clostridium difficile colitis* (bowel inflammation) with symptoms such as:
  - severe, persistent watery or bloody diarrhea (watery or bloody) with or without
    - abdominal pain
    - nausea
    - fever
    - vomiting

This may happen months after the last dose of medication. If this occurs, stop taking the medication and contact your doctor right away.

<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		√ √	
<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)	√	√ √	√
<b>NOT KNOWN</b> <i>Clostridium difficile colitis</i> (bowel inflammation) with symptoms such as severe or persistent diarrhea, abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting.			√

If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, talk to your health care professional.

### Reporting Side Effects

You can report any suspected side effects associated with the use of health products to Health Canada by:

- Visiting the Web page on Adverse Reaction Reporting (<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mpps/medeff/report-declaration/index-eng.php>) for more information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or
- Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

*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.*

### Storage:

Keep in a safe place out of the reach and sight of children.  
 Store at room temperature (15°C to 30°C) in tightly closed container, away from heat and direct light. Protect from moisture. Do not store in the fridge or freezer.  
 Do not store in the bathroom as moisture and heat can cause damage.

**If you want more information about NRA-Clindamycin:**

- Talk to your healthcare professional
- Find the full product monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the Health Canada website (<http://hc-sc.gc.ca/index-eng.php>); or by calling Nora Pharma Inc. at 1-877-352-7314

This leaflet was prepared by Nora Pharma Inc.

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