

## Resuming sexual activity

**STOP having sex with others until you take the medicine, and DO NOT have sex for the next 7 days after taking the medicine.** It takes 7 days for the medicine to work in your body and cure chlamydia infection. If you have sex without a condom during the 7 days after taking the medicine, you could still pass the infection to your sex partners, even if you have no symptoms. While using condoms correctly and every time you have sex is effective, the safest way to make sure you do not pass this infection on to anyone else is to NOT have sex for 7 days.

## How to avoid giving or getting an STD:

- Practice abstinence
- Use condoms every time
- You and your partner commit to only having sex with each other
- Get vaccinated for HPV
- Get tested for all STDs

Chlamydia Treatment Information



**URGENT HEALTH MATTER  
PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL**

# Important information about your health

You have been exposed to someone who was diagnosed with chlamydia, a curable sexually transmitted disease (STD).

Chlamydia can be transmitted through oral, vaginal, or anal sex with a person who has a chlamydia infection. Chlamydia infection is easily treated with the medicine azithromycin (also known as Zithromax). People with chlamydia infection may not know they have it because most people have no signs or symptoms.

Your sex partner has given you azithromycin (pills) medicine or a prescription for azithromycin medicine. This medicine or prescription was given to your sex partner by a doctor or other medical provider to treat YOU.

It is very important for you to see your own doctor or medical provider as soon as possible to be examined and tested for this infection. If you cannot have an exam in the next several days, you should take the pill(s) that were provided to you, or have the prescription that was given to you filled at your local pharmacy, and take the medication as instructed by the pharmacist or medical provider.

It is very important to see a doctor or medical provider as soon as possible to get examined and tested for this and other STDs. People can have more than one STD at the same time. This medicine will not cure other STDs. Having STDs can increase your risk of getting human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). You should also consider getting a test for HIV.

**What is chlamydia?** Chlamydia is an STD caused by a bacteria (germ) called chlamydia trachomatis. It is the most commonly reported disease in Florida. chlamydia infection is a curable STD that you can get from having sex with a person who already has it.

Many people with chlamydia infection do not know they have it because they have no symptoms and feel fine.

**MEN** may notice a discharge (drip) from the penis, pain or discomfort while urinating (peeing), or pain or swelling in their testicles.

**WOMEN** may notice an unusual vaginal discharge, or pain or burning when urinating (peeing), increased need to urinate (pee), pain during sex, bleeding between periods or after sex, lower abdominal (belly), or pelvic (hip) pain or cramps.

If you have symptoms of a more serious infection, such as stomach, hip or testicular pain, fever, nausea or vomiting, please go see a health care provider as soon as possible.

## BEFORE TAKING THE MEDICINE, PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING:

Azithromycin is a very safe antibiotic. However, **DO NOT** take it if any of the following are true:

- You are female and have lower belly pain, pain during sex, vomiting, or fever.
- You are male and have pain or swelling in the testicles or fever.
- You have had a bad reaction, rash, breathing problems, or allergic reaction after taking azithromycin or other antibiotics. People who are allergic to some antibiotics may also be allergic to other types. If you do have allergies to antibiotics, you should be examined by your medical provider before taking this medicine.
- You have a serious long-term illness, such as kidney, heart, or liver disease.
- If you are currently taking another prescription medication, including medicine for diabetes, consult your pharmacist before taking the medication to ask about drug interactions.
- If any of these circumstances exist, or if you are not sure, do not take the Azithromycin. Instead, you should talk to your doctor or medical provider as soon as possible. Your doctor or medical provider will find the best treatment for you.

**If you do not take medicine to cure chlamydia infection, you can get very sick.** If you are a woman, you may get long-term pelvic pain and might not be able to have children.

**If you are pregnant,** seek medical evaluation before taking the medicine.

**If you experience any allergic reactions call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room immediately!**

## Directions for taking Azithromycin

**DO take all the pills given to you at the same time by mouth with a full glass of water and with food.** By taking the pills with food, you are less likely to get an upset stomach or vomit, and the medicine will work better in your body. You need to take all of the medicine you were given to be cured.

**DO NOT take antacids** (such as Tums, Rolaids, or Maalox) for one hour before or two hours after taking the azithromycin pills.

**DO NOT give this medicine to others.** It is intended for sex partners of persons who have infection.

### Possible side effects:

Possible side effects of taking this medication include:

- Slightly upset stomach
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Dizziness
- Vaginal yeast infection

These are well-known side effects and are not serious. Very few people experience any of these problems.

### Allergic reactions:

Allergic reactions are rare. If you have ever had a bad allergic reaction, rash, breathing problems, or other allergic reactions with azithromycin or other antibiotics, consult your doctor, medical provider, or pharmacist before taking this medicine. Possible serious allergic reactions include:

- Difficulty breathing/tightness in the chest
- Closing of your throat
- Swelling of your lips or tongue
- Hives (bumps or welts on your skin that itch intensely)