ERYTHROMYCIN

Dear patient,

Please read the following instructions carefully. They contain important information about the use of this medicine. If you have any further questions, please ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Information about ERYTHROMYCIN

Each tablet of ERYTHROMYCIN STEARATE contains 500 mg of erythromycin (as erythromycin stearate).

Erythromycin belongs to the macrolide group of antibiotics. It is indicated in the treatment of infections caused by susceptible strains in the diseases listed below:

- Respiratory tract infections
- Listeriosis
- Skin and skin structure infections
- Pertussis (whooping cough)
- Diphtheria
- Intestinal amebiasis
- Genital infections
- Conjunctivitis of the newborn
- Urethritis
- Prevention of rheumatic fever

The way to take ERYTHROMYCIN

Take ERYTHROMYCIN as directed by your doctor. Do not discontinue the treatment without consulting your doctor. The duration of treatment is determined according to the disease. Erythromycin stearate tablets must be taken in the fasting state or immediately before meals. The usual dosage is:

- Adults: 500mg (1 tablet) every 12 hours. Dosage may be increased up to 4g (8 tablets) per day according to the severity of the infection. Twice-a-day dosing is not recommended when doses larger than 1g daily are administered.

In case of overdose

In case of intake of high doses of this medication, inform your doctor at once and seek emergency medical attention. General measures should be adopted.

In case of missed dose

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember unless the next intake is near. Go on taking the next scheduled dose as directed. Do not take a double dose at once.

Contraindications

This drug is contraindicated in patients with a history of hypersensitivity to this antibiotic.

Precautions

- This drug should be used with caution in case of impaired hepatic function.
- If you are pregnant or nursing contact your physician about the use of erythromycin. It may be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Association with other medications

Please inform your doctor if other medicines are being taken or have been taken recently. This drug is contraindicated in patients taking terfenadine, astemizole, or cisapride. Use with caution with lovastatin, theophylline, digoxin, oral anticoagulants, bromocriptine, ergotamine, dihydroergotamine, triazolam, midazolam, carbamazepine and valproate.

Side effects

The most frequent side effects include: nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea and anorexia. Allergic reactions, or hepatitis have been rarely reported. Inform your doctor if any of these effects persists or becomes bothersome.

Storage

Store at controlled room temperature (up to 30°C), protected from light and humidity, beyond the reach of children. The expiry date is printed on the pack; don't use this medicine after this date.

Pack presentation

ERYTHROMYCIN STEARATE, 500mg erythromycin (as erythromycin stearate), pack of 16 tablets.

Issue date: 3/2004