# URGENT AND PRIVATE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR HEALTH



# **Gonorrhea CEFIXIME and AZITHROMYCIN Treatment PARTNER PACK Instructions:**

Your sex partner has recently been treated for gonorrhea. Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted disease (STD) that you can get from having any kind of sex (oral, vaginal, or anal) with a person who already has it. You are at risk for gonorrhea and may be at risk for other STDs. Not all STDs will be cured with these medications. People can have more than one STD at the same time, including HIV. The best advice is for you to go into the clinic to be tested and then treated.

## STDs often have no symptoms. When there are symptoms, they can include:

- Discharge from the vagina or anus
- Pain when you urinate (pee) or when having sex
- Pain in your testicles (balls), pelvis, or the lower part of your belly

The preferred treatment for gonorrhea is to be seen in a clinic, have testing, and receive an injection of 500mg of Ceftriaxone if the gonorrhea test is positive. It's common for people to have both gonorrhea and chlamydia infections at the same time, since you have not been tested this Partner Pack includes treatment for both gonorrhea and chlamydia. Injections cannot be provided in Partner Packs so Partner Packs contain oral medications only. In this Partner Pack, you have been given two different types of medicine. One is called Cefixime (sometimes known as "Suprax") and the other called Azithromycin (sometimes known as "Zithromax").

#### The medicine is very safe. However, DO NOT TAKE IT if any of the following are true:

- You have fever
- You are female and have any of the following symptoms: lower belly pain; pain during sex; vomiting.
- You have ever had a bad reaction such as a rash, breathing problems, or allergic reaction after taking Cefixime, Azithromycin, or other antibiotics. People who are allergic to some antibiotics may be allergic to other types of antibiotics. If you do have allergies to antibiotics, you should check with your healthcare provider before taking this medicine.
- You have a serious long-term illness, such as kidney, heart, or liver disease.
- You are currently taking other prescription medication.

If <u>any</u> of these circumstances exist, or if you are not sure, <u>**DO NOT**</u> take this medication. Instead, you should talk to your healthcare provider as soon as possible. Your healthcare provider will find the best treatment for you.

## If you are pregnant, it is safe to take the Cefixime and Azithromycin, it is also recommended that you consult your doctor.

## How to take this medication:

- There are instructions for taking the Cefixime and Azithromycin on the vials containing the medication. Follow those instructions.
- Take the medicines with food and plenty of water. This will decrease the chances of having an upset stomach and will increase the amount your body absorbs.
- Take two Cefixime (400 mg each) and four Azithromycin (250mg each). Take all six pills at the same time to be cured.
- Do NOT take antacids (such as, Tums, Rolaids, or Maalox) for one hour before or two hours after taking the medicine.
- Do not share or give these medicines to anyone else.

#### Possible side effects (these are not all of the side effects that may occur):

- Slightly upset stomach
- Diarrhea
- Dizziness

- Nausea
- GasYeast infection
- <u>Call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room immediately if you have signs or symptoms that might be related to a very bad side effect</u> including, but not limited to:
- 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)

Now that you have your medication, <u>do not have sexual contact (oral, vaginal, anal) for the next seven days after you have taken the</u> <u>medicine</u>. It takes seven days for the medicine to cure gonorrhea. If you have sex before that you can still pass the infection on to your sex partners and you can also get re-infected yourself.

#### Next steps:

- If you have any other sex partners, tell them you are getting treated for gonorrhea, so they can get treated too.
- If you think you have symptoms of gonorrhea infection and they do not go away within seven days after taking this medicine, please go to a healthcare provider for more testing and treatment. You will need to be retested in 3 months or less to see is the infection is gone.
- People who are infected with gonorrhea once are very likely to get it again. It is a good idea to get tested after each partner.
- If you have any questions about the medicine, gonorrhea or other STDs, please call your local health department.
- Use a barrier method (condoms and dental dam) to prevent future infections. Free condoms are available at http://www.KnoWyo.org.

# For low or no cost testing please visit: www.KnoWyo.org