

AMOXICILLIN-CLAVULANIC ACID

(also known as AMOXICILLIN-CLAVULANATE)

Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid is an antibiotic used to treat bacterial infections. It will not work against viral infections such as colds or flu.

Reason for antibiotic:	
Planned duration:	
My doctor's name:	
Doctor's contact details:	

How do I take amoxicillin-clavulanic acid?

- Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid works best if **taken with or soon after food**.
- Swallow tablets whole with a glass of water.
- Keep tablets in the original foil packaging until it is time to take them.

What do I need to be aware of before I take amoxicillin-clavulanic acid?

- Discuss any **pre-existing medical conditions** with your doctor.
- Discuss **other medicines you are currently taking or plan to start taking** (including herbal and over-the-counter medicines) with your doctor and/or pharmacist. This is to ensure amoxicillin-clavulanic acid is safe to take together with your current medicines.
- Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid is a **penicillin** antibiotic.
- If you have had a **previous allergy to a penicillin antibiotic or penicillin based antibiotic**, discuss this with your doctor before you start taking this medicine.

The information contained in this brochure is for educational purposes only and is not intended as a substitute for consultation with a doctor or health care professional. Ask your pharmacist or doctor if you have any additional questions or would like more detailed information about this medicine. **Last reviewed:** 30th October 2023 | **Next review** by November 2026.

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- **Pregnancy:** Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid is considered safe in pregnancy.
- **Breastfeeding:** Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid is considered safe to use while breastfeeding, provided the infant is not known to be allergic to penicillin antibiotics. The breastfed infant should be monitored for side effects such as diarrhoea, vomiting, skin rash and thrush.

Common side effects of amoxicillin-clavulanic acid:

- **Nausea and vomiting;** usually mild and improves over a few days.
- **Diarrhoea;** usually improves over a few days. If diarrhoea occurs, avoid anti-diarrhoeal medicines such as loperamide (the active ingredient in Imodium® or Gastro-Stop®), unless advised by your doctor. See your doctor if you have frequent and watery diarrhoea.

Rare reactions and/or side effects of amoxicillin-clavulanic acid to be aware of:

- **Allergic reactions** such as a rash, itch, blisters or red skin spots; stop taking this medicine and see your doctor.
- **Signs of a serious allergic reaction**, such as difficulty breathing or swelling of the face, eyes or lips; call for an ambulance immediately OR present to the accident and emergency department at your nearest hospital immediately.
- **Changes in liver function;** signs of liver problems include loss of appetite, severe nausea or vomiting, dark urine, pale stools and yellowing of the eyes or skin. During prolonged treatment, your doctor may request a blood test to check your liver function.