**Clindamycin 150mg, 300mg capsules**

clindamycin hydrochloride monohydrate

**What is Clindamycin and what is it used for?**Clindamycin is an antibiotic that inhibits the growth of certain types of bacteria and, in some cases, even kills them.

Clindamycin can be used in the treatment of diseases caused by bacterial infections. These include the following infections:

* Pneumonia
* Upper respiratory tract infections, including throat and sinus infections
* Skin and soft tissue infections
* Bone and joint infections
* Infections of the female genital organs (gynecological infections). Clindamycin is used in combination with another antibiotic for these infections.
* Intra-abdominal infections, including peritonitis and abdominal abscesses. Clindamycin is used in combination with another antibiotic for these infections.

**When should you not use this medicine or use it with caution?
When should you not use this medicine?**You are allergic to lincomycin or to any of the ingredients in this medicine.

**When should you use this medicine with caution?**

Contact your doctor or pharmacist before taking this medicine.

Conditions of importance when using Clindamycin:

* You have or have had a bowel inflammation.
* Your liver or kidneys do not function properly.
* You frequently experience allergies.

**Possible consequences of using Clindamycin:** The use of clindamycin can lead to severe hypersensitivity reactions or severe skin reactions. You should immediately contact your doctor if you experience a skin condition characterized by the shedding of large areas of skin and mucous membranes (toxic epidermal necrolysis, Lyell's syndrome), severe allergic reaction with high fever, skin blisters, joint pain, and/or eye inflammation (Stevens-Johnson syndrome), acute skin rash characterized by a sudden outbreak of pus-filled blisters with red surrounding skin (acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP)), or drug rash (DRESS). Treatment with clindamycin may need to be discontinued.

Antibiotics, including clindamycin, can sometimes cause inflammation of the intestines. This is caused by a specific bacterium (Clostridium difficile) that can grow because other bacteria disappear due to the action of clindamycin (colitis or pseudomembranous colitis). You should contact your doctor immediately if you experience diarrhea during treatment or within 3 weeks after treatment.

Sometimes diarrhea can become very severe, and mucus and blood may also appear in the stool (see also section 4 "Possible side effects").

Because clindamycin inhibits the growth of certain bacterial species, it can disrupt the natural balance between these and other non-sensitive bacteria or microorganisms. This can lead to an overgrowth of these organisms, especially yeast.

Clindamycin capsules contain lactose. Patients with rare hereditary conditions such as galactose intolerance, Lapp lactase deficiency, or glucose-galactose malabsorption should not use this medicine.

Severe allergic reactions can occur, even immediately after the first intake. You should immediately notify your doctor if this happens.

Sometimes treatment with Clindamycin may be an alternative if you are allergic (hypersensitive) to penicillin. However, occasionally there may be an allergy (hypersensitivity) to Clindamycin in individuals with an existing allergy to penicillin. You should be aware of this if you are given Clindamycin and are allergic to penicillin.

Acute kidney problems can occur. Inform your doctor about all the medicines you are currently taking and if you have existing kidney problems. Contact your doctor immediately if you experience reduced urination (decreased urine production), fluid retention that can lead to swelling of your legs, ankles, or feet, shortness of breath, or nausea.

**Are you using any other medications?**Are you using or have you recently used any other medications, or is there a possibility that you will use other medications in the near future? Then tell your doctor or pharmacist. This also applies to medicines for which you do not need a prescription.

**The following medications may be affected by Clindamycin:**

* Muscle relaxants used during surgeries; clindamycin can enhance the effect of these medications.
* Erythromycin, another antibiotic, as these medications can reduce each other's effectiveness.

Medications used to prevent blood clotting, such as warfarin. This can make you more prone to bleeding. Your doctor will want to monitor how well your blood can clot regularly.

**The following medication can reduce the effectiveness of Clindamycin:**

• Rifampicin (antibiotic for infections): rifampicin stimulates the enzymes responsible for the breakdown of Clindamycin. This can reduce the effect of Clindamycin.

**Pregnancy and breastfeeding:** Are you pregnant, think you might be pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding? Then contact your doctor or pharmacist before using this medicine.

If you are pregnant or trying to become pregnant, Clindamycin should only be used if your doctor considers it absolutely necessary.

Clindamycin is excreted in breast milk and may potentially cause adverse effects on the intestinal flora of infants. When using Clindamycin during breastfeeding, the benefits and risks should be carefully weighed, taking into account the importance of treatment for the mother and the potential side effects of Clindamycin on the infant. Your doctor will decide whether it is necessary to temporarily interrupt breastfeeding for the duration of the treatment with Clindamycin.

**Driving and using machines:** No effect on driving or the use of machines has been observed.

**Clindamycin capsules contain lactose:** The capsules contain lactose. If your doctor has told you that you are intolerant to certain sugars, please contact your doctor before taking this medicine.

**How to use this medicine:** Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. If you are unsure about the correct use, please contact your doctor or pharmacist.

Depending on the severity of the infection and your weight, your doctor will determine the correct dosage and duration of treatment for you.

The capsules should be taken with a full glass of water. This prevents the capsules from getting stuck in your esophagus, where they can cause inflammation. It is advisable to take the capsules at fixed times. You can take Clindamycin during meals, but this is not necessary.

**Adults:** The recommended dosage is 150-450 mg every 6 hours. For proper capsule intake, see section 3 "How to take this medicine?" above.

**Use in children: Children older than one month:** Clindamycin in children should be dosed based on total body weight, regardless of obesity.

The recommended dosage is 8 to 25 mg per kg of body weight per day, divided into 3 or 4 equal doses.

The capsules should only be used by children who can swallow capsules. For proper capsule intake, see section 3 "How to take this medicine?" above. In addition, the use of capsules may be unsuitable for younger children to provide them with the precise dose.

**Long-term use of this medicine:** If you need to take Clindamycin for an extended period, your doctor may regularly perform blood and liver tests. Do not skip these check-ups with your doctor.

**Have you taken too much of this medicine?**No specific toxic effects have been reported in case of overdose.

If you have taken too much of this medicine, gastrointestinal symptoms such as abdominal pain, esophagitis, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea may occur.

Contact your doctor or pharmacist immediately if you have taken too much Clindamycin.

**Have you forgotten to take this medicine?**You should simply continue with the next dose when you have forgotten a dose of Clindamycin.
Note: Do not take a double dose to make up for a missed dose.

**If you stop taking this medicine:** Complete the entire course of Clindamycin treatment prescribed by your doctor.

Although you may notice improvement in some cases quite quickly, you should continue taking Clindamycin. The infection can return if some harmful bacteria are still alive. If you have any other questions about using this medicine, please contact your doctor or pharmacist.

**Possible side effects:** Like all medicines, this medicine can have side effects, although not everyone gets them.

**Contact your doctor immediately if you experience:** Fluid retention leading to swelling of your legs, ankles, or feet, shortness of breath, or nausea.

**Side effects occur at the following frequencies:**

**Common (occur in less than 1 in 10 users):**

• Severe diarrhea; this may indicate inflammation of the intestines caused by a specific bacterium (Clostridium difficile), which can grow because other bacteria disappear due to the action of clindamycin. Therefore, notify your doctor if you experience diarrhea (see also section 2 "When should you be extra careful with this medicine?"), diarrhea, abdominal pain, stomach pain, inflammation of the oral mucosa.

Abnormal liver function test, elevation of serum transaminases.

**Sometimes (occur in less than 1 in 100 users):**

* Deficiency of certain white blood cells, leading to increased susceptibility to infections (granulocytopenia).
* Blockage of nerves and muscles (neuromuscular blocking effect).
* Vomiting, nausea.
* Rash characterized by a flat, red area on the skin covered with small coalescing bumps (maculopapular rash), rash with intense itching and bumps (hives, urticaria).

**Rarely (occur in less than 1 in 1,000 users):**

* Sudden swelling of the skin and mucous membranes (e.g., throat or tongue), resulting in difficulty breathing and/or itching and rash, often as an allergic reaction (angioedema), joint swelling.
* Drug fever.
* Very rarely (occur in less than 1 in 10,000 users):
* Liver inflammation (hepatitis) with temporary jaundice.
* Inflammation of multiple joints (polyarthritis).

**Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from available data):**

* Clostridium difficile colitis, vaginal infection (mucosa).
* Severe blood disorders with significantly fewer white blood cells, leading to sudden high fever, severe sore throat, and mouth ulcers (agranulocytosis), deficiency of white blood cells leading to increased susceptibility to infections (neutropenia, leukopenia), deficiency of platelets with symptoms of bruising and increased risk of bleeding (thrombocytopenia), increase in certain white blood cells (eosinophils).
* Severe allergic reaction with a sharp drop in blood pressure, paleness, restlessness, rapid weak heartbeat, clammy skin, and reduced consciousness due to a sudden widening of blood vessels (anaphylactic shock), hypersensitivity reactions requiring immediate medical intervention (anaphylactoid reaction, anaphylactic reaction), hypersensitivity.
* Taste disturbance, olfactory disturbance, headache, drowsiness, dizziness.
* Esophageal ulcer, esophagitis.
* Jaundice.
* Severe, sudden allergic reaction, with symptoms of fever and skin blisters and skin peeling (toxic epidermal necrolysis; Lyell's syndrome), severe allergic reaction with high fever, skin blisters, joint pain, and/or eye inflammation (Stevens-Johnson syndrome), severe allergic reaction with rash, fever, and swelling of the face and oral mucosa, transient increase in the amount of a certain type of blood cells (eosinophils) and possibly jaundice, joint pain (arthralgia) and inflammation of the kidneys with symptoms of blood in urine, fever, and side pain (interstitial nephritis) (DRESS syndrome), acute skin rash characterized by a sudden outbreak of pus-filled blisters with a red surrounding skin (acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP)), skin inflammation characterized by skin peeling (exfoliative dermatitis), skin inflammation with blister formation (bullous dermatitis), rash with irregular red spots (erythema multiforme), itching (pruritus), hypersensitivity (allergy) in the form of measles-like skin rash (morbilliform rash).

**How to store this medicine:**

* Store below 25°C.
* Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
* Do not use this medicine after the expiry date. The expiry date is printed on the box or blister after "Exp:". It includes a month and a year. The last day of that month is the expiry date.
* Do not dispose of medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines you no longer need. These measures will help protect the environment.