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# Patient Information: Amoxicillin

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*Amoxicillin 500 mg Oral Tablet or Amoxicillin Oral Suspension*

## Take this medicine only as prescribed.

Amoxicillin is a penicillin antibiotic. It has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to treat infections caused by certain types of bacteria. Amoxicillin has not been approved by the FDA to be used for treating people who have been exposed to anthrax. But, it is the best medicine to use to stop anthrax disease if other medicines are not as safe to use.

## How to Take Amoxicillin

**Adults:** Take 1 pill three times each day.

**Children:** A child's dose depends on body weight. Give the medicine to your child as directed by the doctor.

Take this medicine with a large glass of water. It can be taken with or without food. Taking it with food may help avoid an upset stomach.

If you miss a dose, start again taking one pill three times each day. Do not take 2 pills at one time to make up for the missed dose. Finish all your pills, even if you feel fine, unless your doctor tells you to stop. **If you stop taking this medicine too soon, you may become ill.**

## Side Effects

Common side effects of this medicine are an upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. If you have problems with any of these symptoms, tell your doctor.

**Allergic reactions are rare.** Signs of an allergic reaction are rash; itching; swollen tongue, hands, or feet; fever; or trouble breathing. If you have any of these problems, call your doctor right away.

**Birth Control:** Birth control pills may not work as well when taking this medicine. Use condoms or another form of birth control until you are finished taking all of the pills.

## Tell Your Doctor

- If you are allergic to any medicines.
- The names of ALL of the medicines that you are taking, including pills that were bought at the store such as vitamins and antacids.
- If you have asthma, which is a breathing problem, or any other illness.
- If you are pregnant. This medicine is safe to take when you are pregnant but tell your doctor if you are pregnant.
- If you get vaginal itching and discharge. This medicine can cause these problems.

For more information, call the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center at 1-800-222-1222 or go to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at [www.cdc.gov/anthrax/](http://www.cdc.gov/anthrax/).