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PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER



Xetinin XL

500 mg Prolonged Release Tablets  
Clarithromycin

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet

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1. What Xetinin XL Tablets are and what they are used for

Xetinin XL 500 mg Prolonged Release Tablets (Called Xetinin XL Tablets in this leaflet) contain the active ingredient clarithromycin citrate. Clarithromycin belongs to a group of medicines called macrolide antibiotics. Antibiotics stop the growth of bacteria (bugs) which cause infections. Xetinin XL Tablets are used to treat infections such as:

1. Chest infections such as bronchitis and pneumonia
2. Throat and sinus infection
3. Mild to moderate skin and tissue infections, e.g. cellulitis, folliculitis or erysipelas.

Xetinin XL Tablets are used in adults and children 12 years and older.

2. What you need to know before you take Xetinin XL Tablets

Do not take Xetinin XL Tablets

- If you know that you are **allergic** to clarithromycin or other antibiotics from the same drug class (macrolide antibiotics) such as erythromycin or azithromycin, or if you are allergic to any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- If you are taking medicines called ergot alkaloid tablets (e.g. ergotamine or dihydroergotamine) or use ergotamine inhalers for migraine.
- If you are taking medicines called terfenadine or astemizole (widely taken for hay fever or allergies) or cisapride or domperidone (for stomach problems) or pimozide (for mental health problems) as combining these drugs can sometimes cause serious disturbances in heart rhythm. Consult your doctor for advice on alternative medicines.
- If you are taking other medicines which are known to cause serious disturbances in heart rhythm.
- If you are taking lovastatin or simvastatin (HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors, commonly known as statins, used to lower levels of cholesterol (a type of fat) in the blood).
- If you are taking oral midazolam (a sedative).
- If you are taking a medicine containing lomitapide.
- If you have abnormally low levels of potassium or magnesium in your blood (hypokalaemia or hypomagnesaemia).
- If you have **severe** liver disease with kidney disease or someone in your family has a history of heart rhythm disorders (ventricular cardiac arrhythmia, including torsades de pointes) or abnormality of electrocardiogram (ECG, electrical recording of the heart) called “long QT syndrome”.
- If you are taking medicines called ticagrelor, ranolazine or ivabradine (for heart attack, chest pain or angina).
- If you are taking colchicine (usually taken for gout).

Warning and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Xetinin XL Tablets:

- If you are pregnant or breast feeding (see Pregnancy and breast-feeding)
- If you have, or are prone to, fungal infections (e.g. thrush)
- If you have heart problems (e.g. heart disease, heart failure, an unusually slow heart rate)
- If you have any liver or kidney problems.

Children under 12 years

Xetinin XL Tablets are not suitable for use in children under 12 years of age.

Other medicines and Xetinin XL Tablets

You should **not** take Xetinin XL tablets if you are taking any of the medicines listed in the section above “Do not take Xetinin XL tablets”.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines as your dose may need to be changed or you may need to have regular tests performed:

- digoxin, quinidine or disopyramide (for heart problems)
- ibrutinib (for cancer treatment)
- warfarin, or any other anticoagulant e.g. dabigatran, rivaroxaban, apixaban, edoxaban (for blood thinning)
- carbamazepine, valproate, phenobarbital or phenytoin (for epilepsy)
- atorvastatin, rosuvastatin (HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors, commonly known as statins, and used to lower levels of cholesterol (a type of fat) in the blood). Statins can cause rhabdomyolysis (a condition which causes the breakdown of muscle tissue which can result in kidney damage) and signs of myopathy (muscle pain or muscle weakness) should be monitored
- nateglinide, pioglitazone, repaglinide, rosiglitazone or insulin (used to lower blood glucose levels)
- gliclazide or glimepiride (sulphonylureas used in the treatment of type II diabetes)
- theophylline (used in patients with breathing difficulties such as asthma)
- triazolam, alprazolam or intravenous or oromucosal midazolam (sedatives)
- cilostazol (for poor circulation)
- methadone (used in the treatment of opioid addiction)
- methylprednisolone (a corticosteroid)
- vinblastine (for treatment of cancer)
- ciclosporin, sirolimus and tacrolimus (immune suppressants)
- etravirine, efavirenz, nevirapine, ritonavir, zidovudine, atazanavir, saquinavir (anti-viral drugs used in the treatment of HIV)
- rifabutin, rifampicin, rifapentine, fluconazole, itraconazole (used in the treatment of certain bacterial infections)
- tolterodine (for overactive bladder)
- verapamil, amlodipine, diltiazem (for high blood pressure)
- sildenafil, vardenafil and tadalafil (for impotence in adult males or for use in pulmonary arterial hypertension (high blood pressure in the blood vessels of the lung))
- St John’s Wort (a herbal product used to treat depression)
- quetiapine or other antipsychotic medicines
- other macrolide medicines
- lincomycin and clindamycin (lincosamides – a type of antibiotic)
- hydroxychloroquine or chloroquine (used to treat conditions including rheumatoid arthritis, or to treat or prevent malaria). Taking these medicines at the same time as clarithromycin may increase the chance of you getting side effects that affect your heart
- corticosteroids, given by mouth, by injection or inhaled (used to help suppress the body’s immune system - this is useful in treating a wide range of conditions).

Please tell your doctor if you are taking oral contraceptive pills and diarrhoea or vomiting occurs, as you may need to take extra contraceptive precautions such as using a condom.

Xetinin XL Tablets with food and drink

The tablets should be taken with food and must be swallowed whole and not chewed.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist before taking this medicine as the safety of Xetinin XL Tablets in pregnancy and breast-feeding is not known.

Driving and using machines

Xetinin XL Tablets may make you feel dizzy or drowsy. If they affect you in this way do not drive, operate machinery or do anything that requires you to be alert.

Xetinin XL Tablets contain lactose

Xetinin XL Tablets contain lactose. If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicinal product.

3. How to take Xetinin XL Tablets

Do not give Xetinin XL Tablets to children under 12 years. Your doctor will prescribe another suitable medicine for your child.

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure. The usual dose of Xetinin XL Tablets for adults and children over 12 years is one 500 mg tablet once a day for 6 to 14 days.



Your doctor may increase the dose to two 500 mg tablets daily in severe Infections. Xetinin XL Tablets should be taken with food and must be swallowed whole and not chewed.

**If you take more Xetinin XL Tablets than you should**

If you accidentally take more Xetinin XL Tablets in one day than your doctor has told you to, or if a child accidentally swallow some tablets, contact your doctor or nearest hospital emergency department immediately. An overdose of Xetinin XL Tablets is likely to cause vomiting and stomach pains.

**If you forget to take Xetinin XL Tablets**

If you forget to take a dose of Xetinin XL Tablets, take it as soon as you remember. Do not take more tablets in one day unless your doctor has told you to. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

**If you stop taking Xetinin XL Tablets**

Do not stop taking Xetinin XL Tablets, even if you feel better. It is Important to take the tablet for as long as the doctor has told you to, otherwise the problem might come back.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

**4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

If you suffer from any of the following at any time during your treatment **STOP TAKING** your tablets and contact your doctor immediately:

- severe or prolonged diarrhoea, which may have blood or mucus in it. Diarrhoea may occur over two months after treatment with clarithromycin, in which case you should still contact your doctor
- a rash, difficulty breathing, fainting or swelling of the face, tongue, lips, eyes and throat. This is a sign that you may have developed an allergic reaction
- yellowing of the skin (jaundice), skin irritation, pale stools, dark urine, tender abdomen or loss of appetite. These are signs that your liver may have inflammation and not be working properly
- severe skin reactions such as painful blistering of the skin, mouth, lips, eyes and genitals (symptoms of a rare allergic reaction called Stevens-Johnson syndrome/toxic epidermal necrolysis)
- a red, scaly rash with bumps under the skin and blisters (symptoms of exanthematous pustulosis). The frequency of this side effect is not known (cannot be estimated from the available data)
- rare allergic skin reactions which cause severe illness with ulceration of the mouth, lips and skin which causes severe illness with rash, fever and inflammation of internal organs (DRESS)
- muscle pain or weakness known as rhabdomyolysis (a condition which causes the breakdown of muscle tissue which can result in kidney damage).

**OTHER SIDE EFFECTS:**

**Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):**

- difficulty sleeping
- headache
- widening of blood vessels
- changes in the sense of taste (dysgeusia)
- stomach problems such as feeling sick, vomiting, stomach pain, indigestion, diarrhoea
- increased sweating.

**Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people):**

- high temperature
- swelling, redness or itchiness of the skin
- oral or vaginal ‘thrush’ (a fungal infection)
- inflammation of the stomach and intestines
- decrease of the levels of blood platelets (blood platelets help stop bleeding)
- decrease in white blood cells (leukopenia)
- decrease in neutrophils (neutropenia)
- stiffness
- chills
- increase of eosinophils (white blood cells involved in immunity)
- exaggerated immune response to a foreign agent
- lack or loss of appetite
- anxiety, nervousness
- drowsiness, tiredness, dizziness or shaking
- involuntary muscle movements
- vertigo
- ringing in the ears or hearing loss
- chest pain or changes in heart rhythm such as palpitations or an irregular heartbeat
- asthma: lung disease associated with tightening of air passages, making breathing difficult
- nose bleed
- blood clot that causes sudden blockage in a lung artery (pulmonary embolism)
- inflammation of the lining of the gullet (oesophagus) and lining of the stomach
- anal pain
- bloating, constipation, wind, burping
- dry mouth
- situation where the bile (fluid made by the liver and stored

- in the gallbladder) cannot flow from the gallbladder to the duodenum (cholestasis)
- inflammation of the skin characterized by the presence of the bullae which are filled with fluid, itchy and painful rash
- muscle spasms, muscle pain or loss of muscle tissue. If you suffer from myasthenia gravis (a condition in which the muscles become weak and tire easily), clarithromycin may worsen these symptoms
- raised abnormal kidney and liver function blood test and raised blood tests
- feeling weak, tired and having no energy.

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

- inflammation of the colon
- bacterial infection of the outer layers of the skin
- reduction in the level of certain blood cells (which can make infections more likely or increase the risk of bruising or bleeding)
- confusion, loss of bearings, hallucinations (seeing things), change in sense of reality or panicking, depression, abnormal dreams or nightmares and mania (feeling of elation or over-excitement)
- convulsion (fits)
- paraesthesia, more commonly known as ‘pins and needles’
- loss of taste or smell or inability to smell properly
- type of heart rhythm disorder (Torsade de pointes, ventricular tachycardia)
- loss of blood (haemorrhage)
- inflammation of the pancreas
- discolouration of the tongue or teeth
- acne
- change in the levels of products produced by the kidney, inflammation of the kidney or an inability of the kidney to function properly (you may notice tiredness, swelling or puffiness in the face, abdomen, thighs or ankles or problems with urination).

If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

**Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at: [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard) or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

**5. How to store Xetinin XL Tablets**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

This medicinal product does not require any special storage conditions.

Do not use Xetinin XL Tablets after the expiry date which is stated on the carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

**6. Contents of the pack and other information**

**What Xetinin XL Tablets contain**

The active substance is clarithromycin citrate. Each prolonged-release tablet contains clarithromycin citrate equivalent to clarithromycin 500 mg.

The other ingredients in the tablet core are lactose monohydrate, hypromellose, hypromellose phthalate, talc, magnesium stearate. The tablet coating contains hypromellose, macrogol, quinoline yellow aluminium lake (E104), talc and titanium dioxide (E171).

**What Xetinin XL Tablets looks like and contents of the pack**

Xetinin XL Tablets are yellow coloured, film coated, oblong shaped, biconvex tablets, with both sides plain.

They are available in blister packs of 7, 10, 14, 20, 28, 30, 56, 60, 84, 90, 100 and 112 film coated tablets.

*Not all pack sizes may be marketed.*

**Marketing Authorisation Holder**

Morningside Healthcare Ltd.  
Unit C, Harcourt Way, Leicester, LE19 1WP, UK

**Manufacturer**

Morningside Pharmaceuticals Ltd.  
5 Pavilion Way, Loughborough, LE11 5GW, UK

Morningside Pharmaceuticals Ltd. & Aspire Pharma Ltd.  
Second Floor, Boss Court, 7 Barton Close  
Grove Park, Leicester, LE19 1SJ, UK

Aspire Pharma Ltd.  
Unit 4, Rotherbrook Court, Bedford Road  
Petersfield, Hampshire, GU32 3QG, UK

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