

PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE

ERYC

Erythromycin delayed release capsules USP

Read this carefully before you start taking **ERYC** and each time you get a refill. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this drug. Talk to your healthcare professional about your medical condition and treatment and ask if there is any new information about **ERYC**.

What is ERYC used for?

ERYC treats certain bacterial infections:

- of the lungs and throat (respiratory tract).
- of skin and other soft tissue, including acne.
- passed during sex (e.g. syphilis and chlamydia).

Antibacterial drugs like **ERYC** treat only bacterial infections. They do not treat viral infections such as the common cold. Although you may feel better early in treatment, **ERYC** should be used exactly as directed. Misuse or overuse of **ERYC** could lead to the growth of bacteria that will not be killed by **ERYC** (resistance). This means that **ERYC** may not work for you in the future. Do not share your medicine.

How does ERYC work?

ERYC is an antibiotic. It works by killing or stopping the growth of the bacteria that cause your infection.

What are the ingredients in ERYC?

Medicinal ingredients: Erythromycin

Non-medicinal ingredients: cellulose acetate phthalate, diethyl phthalate, lactose, methanol, methylene chloride, potassium phosphate monobasic and povidone. Gluten-, paraben- and tartrazine-free.

Capsule shell of **ERYC** 333 mg: D&C Yellow No. 10, D&C Red No. 33, gelatin and titanium dioxide.

ERYC comes in the following dosage forms:

- Capsules: 333 mg

Do not use ERYC if you:

- are allergic to erythromycin or any other ingredients of **ERYC** (see What are the ingredients in **ERYC**?).
 - are taking any of the following medication:
 - dihydroergotamine, ergotamine (for migraine).
 - cisapride* (for stomach problems).
 - astemizole* and terfenadine* (antihistamines, for treating allergies).
 - pimozide (for psychiatric problems).
 - lovastatin, simvastatin (for reducing blood cholesterol).
- * no longer marketed in Canada

To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take ERYC. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you:

- have liver problems.
- have myasthenia gravis (a disease which causes muscle weakness, difficulty chewing and swallowing and slurred speech).
- have an irregular heartbeat, especially a problem called QT prolongation.
- are pregnant or planning to become pregnant.
- are breastfeeding or planning to breastfeed. Erythromycin is passed to the infant through human breast milk

Other warnings you should know about:

While taking **ERYC**

- Follow your doctor's instructions carefully.
- Tell your doctor and pharmacist that you are taking ERYC if you are about to start taking any new medicines.
- Do not stop taking your medicine until your doctor tells you to, even if you are feeling better.

Do not use **ERYC** to treat any other medical complaints unless your doctor tells you to.

If you develop diarrhea during or after treatment with **ERYC**, tell your doctor at once. Do not use any medicine to treat your diarrhea without first checking with your doctor.

Contact your doctor if your baby vomits or is irritable while being fed.

Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take, including any drugs, vitamins, minerals, natural supplements or alternative medicines.

The following may interact with ERYC:

- alfentanil, midazolam, zopiclone and triazolam (sedatives which may be given before an operation).
- astemizole* and terfenadine* (antihistamines, for treating allergies).
- atorvastatin (for reducing blood cholesterol).
- carbamazepine, hexobarbital, phenytoin (for epilepsy).
- chloramphenicol, clindamycin and lincomycin (for infections).
- cyclosporin (for prevention of rejection after graft or organ transplant).
- cisapride* and cimetidine (for stomach problems).
- digoxin and quinidine (for heart conditions).
- dihydroergotamine, ergotamine (for migraine).
- oral anticoagulants (for preventing blood clots).
- pimozone (for psychiatric problems).
- theophylline (for breathing problems).
- verapamil (for high blood pressure).

* no longer marketed in Canada

How to take ERYC:

Follow your doctor's instructions carefully about how much ERYC to take and when to take it. ERYC should be swallowed, at least 30 minutes and preferably 2 hours before or after a meal. ERYC 333 mg capsules is not recommended for sprinkling, since the capsules are very full and some of the medication may be lost through spillage. If, however, the capsule is to be opened, care must be taken to open the capsule over food so as not to lose any of the pellets.

1. Hold the capsule with the clear end down. Gently twist off the orange cap to open.
2. Sprinkle the ENTIRE contents of the capsule on a spoonful of applesauce, fruit jellies, ice cream, etc. The pellets should not be chewed or crushed.
3. Have your child swallow the spoonful of applesauce, fruit jellies, or ice cream. Your child should drink some water to make sure all the pellets are swallowed.
4. If the pellets are accidentally spilled, start over with a new capsule.

Usual dose:

Adult dose:

- one capsule of 333 mg three times a day

Your doctor may decide to increase the dose depending on the specific condition you have.

Child dose:

Your child's doctor will decide the dose of ERYC to give to your child, depending on your child's age, weight and on the specific condition your child has.

Overdose:

Do not take more capsules than your doctor has told you to.

If you think you, or a person you are caring for, have taken too much **ERYC**, contact a healthcare professional, hospital emergency department, or regional poison control centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

Missed Dose:

If you should forget to take your capsule at the usual time, take it as soon as you remember unless it is time to take the next one. Continue with the remaining doses as before. Do not take more than one dose at a time.

What are possible side effects from using ERYC?

These are not all the possible side effects you may have when taking **ERYC**. If you experience any side effects not listed here, tell your healthcare professional.

Side effects may include:

- Nausea.
- Vomiting.
- Stomach pain and discomfort.
- Diarrhea.
- Itching and skin rashes.
- Confusion.

- Hallucinations.
- Vertigo (dizziness, balance problem).
- Seizure.
- Problems with your pancreas.
- Problems with your kidneys.
- Hearing problems.
- Muscle pain and weakness.

If they occur, they are likely to be minor and temporary. However, some may be serious and need medical attention.

Serious side effects and what to do about them			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
COMMON Clostridium difficile colitis (bowel inflammation): severe diarrhea (bloody or watery) with or without stomach cramps and fever			√
RARE Severe allergic reaction: with symptoms such as swollen mouth, throat, lips, difficulty breathing, skin reactions (rash, blisters, hives)			√
Liver problems: nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain and discomfort, yellowing of the skin and eyes		√	
Abnormal heart rhythm: Irregularities of the heartbeat (palpitations)			√
Severe skin reactions: like Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis with symptoms such as severe rash, blistering or peeling skin. This may be associated with a high fever.			√

If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, tell your healthcare professional.

Reporting Side Effects

You can report any suspected side effects associated with the use of health products to Health Canada by:

- Visiting the Web page on Adverse Reaction Reporting (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada.html>) for information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or
- Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.

Storage:

Store at room temperature 15°C to 30°C. Protect from light.

Keep out of reach and sight of children.

If you want more information about ERYC:

- Talk to your healthcare professional
- Find the full product monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the Health Canada website: (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/drug-products/drug-product-database.html>); the manufacturer's website <https://www.pfizer.ca/>, or by calling 1-800-463-6001.

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