

Package leaflet: information for the user

Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl AmaroX 250 mg/100 mg film-coated tablets

atovaquone/proguanil hydrochloride

Read the entire 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.
- Do you have any further questions? Please contact your doctor or pharmacist.
- Do not pass this medicine on to others, as it has been prescribed for you only. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.
- Do you experience any side effects listed in section 4? Or do you experience a side effect not listed in this leaflet? Then contact your doctor or pharmacist.

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1. What is Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl AmaroX and what is it used for?

Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl AmaroX belongs to a group of medicines called antimalarials. Each tablet contains two active substances: atovaquone and proguanil hydrochloride.

This medicine can be used in 2 ways:

- To prevent malaria (prophylaxis)
- To treat malaria

Explanation of the dosage for these 2 methods of treatment is given in section 3 "How to use this medicine?".

Malaria is caused by the bite of an infected mosquito, which introduces the malaria parasite (*Plasmodium falciparum*) into the blood. This medicine prevents malaria by killing the parasite. In people who already have malaria in their blood, this medicine also kills the parasites.

Protect yourself against malaria People of all ages can get malaria. Malaria is a serious disease, but it is a disease you can protect yourself against.

In addition to using this medicine, it is very important that you take the following precautions to prevent mosquito bites.

- use an insect repellent on exposed skin
- wear light-colored clothing that covers the body as much as possible, especially after sunset, as mosquitoes are most active then

- sleep in a room with mosquito screens or under a mosquito net (bed net) treated with an insecticide
- close doors and windows at sunset if there are no mosquito screens
- possibly use an insecticide (mats, spray, plug-in) to make the room insect-free or to keep mosquitoes out of the room.

If you want more information, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

Even if you take the necessary measures, you can still get malaria. In some forms of malaria, it takes a long time before you get symptoms. The disease sometimes starts only a few days, weeks, or months after you have returned from abroad.

Contact your doctor immediately if you develop symptoms such as fever, headache, chills, and fatigue after returning from abroad.

2. When should you not use this medicine or be extra careful with it?

When should you not use this medicine?

You are allergic to any of the ingredients in this medicine. You can find these ingredients in section 6.

- To prevent malaria (prophylaxis), if you have severe kidney problemseft

When should you be extra careful with this medicine?

Contact your doctor or pharmacist before taking this medicine if:

- you have a severe kidney disorder
- your child is being treated for malaria and weighs less than 11 kg. There is another tablet strength to treat children weighing less than 11 kg (see section 3).

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if any of these points apply to you.

Are you using any other medicines?

Are you using any other medicines besides Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl AmaroX, have you recently done so, or is there a possibility that you will use other medicines in the near future? If so, tell your doctor or pharmacist. These include:

- metoclopramide for the treatment of nausea and vomiting
- the medicines for bacterial infections (antibiotics) tetracycline, rifampicin, and rifabutin
- efavirenz or certain highly active protease inhibitors used for the treatment of HIV infection
- warfarin and other medicines that counteract blood clotting (blood thinners).
- etoposide for the treatment of cancer

Tell your doctor if you are using any of the above-mentioned medicines. Your doctor may decide that Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl AmaroX is not suitable for you, or that you need extra monitoring while using this medicine.

Remember to tell your doctor if you start using other medicines while taking Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl AmaroX.

What should you pay attention to with food and drink?

Take this medicine with food or a dairy drink (e.g., milk) if possible. This allows your body to absorb a larger amount of this medicine and improves the treatment.

Pregnancy and breastfeeding

Do not take this medicine if you are pregnant, unless advised by your doctor.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Do not breastfeed while using this medicine, as the substances in this medicine can pass into breast milk and may be harmful to the baby.

Driving and using machines

If you are dizzy, you should not drive a vehicle. Some people may become dizzy from this medicine. If this is the case for you, then you should not drive a vehicle, use machines, or participate in activities where you could put yourself or others in danger.

Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl AmaroX contains sodium

This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per film-coated tablet and is therefore essentially 'sodium-free'.

3. How do you use this medicine?

Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Are you unsure about the correct use? Then contact your doctor or pharmacist.

Take this medicine with food or with a dairy drink (for example, milk) if possible.

It is best to take this medicine at the same time every day.

To prevent malaria

The recommended dosage for adults is 1 tablet once a day, taken as described below.

Not recommended to prevent malaria in children or in adults weighing less than 40 kg.

Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl AmaroX 62.5 mg/25 mg film-coated tablets (the lower strength of the same medicine) are recommended for preventing malaria in children or adults weighing less than 40 kg.

To prevent malaria in adults, it is important that you

- Start taking this medicine 1 to 2 days before traveling to an area where malaria is prevalent
- Continue using this medicine as long as you remain there.
- Continue using this medicine for 7 days after you return to an area without malaria

To treat malaria

The recommended dosage for adults is 4 tablets once a day for 3 consecutive days.

The dosage for children depends on how much they weigh:

- 11-20 kg – 1 tablet once a day for 3 consecutive days
- 21-30 kg – 2 tablets once a day for 3 consecutive days

- 31-40 kg – 3 tablets once a day for 3 consecutive days
- more than 40 kg: dosage as in adults

Not recommended to treat malaria in children weighing less than 11 kg.

For children weighing less than 11 kg, you should contact your doctor. There may be other tablets available in your country.

If you need to vomit

To prevent malaria:

- if you vomit within one hour after taking this medicine, take another dose immediately.
- it is important that you complete the entire course with this medicine. If you need to take extra tablets because you have vomited, you may need an extra prescription.
- if you have vomited, it is especially important to take extra measures, such as insect repellents and a mosquito net. This is because vomiting may reduce the effectiveness of this medicine as the body absorbs less of it.

To treat malaria:

- if you have vomited or have diarrhea, contact your doctor. You will need regular blood tests. This medicine will be less effective due to vomiting because the body absorbs less of the medicine. The tests will show whether the malaria parasite is disappearing from the blood.

Have you used too much of this medicine?

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice. Show the packaging of this medicine if you can.

Have you forgotten to take this medicine?

It is very important that you complete the entire course.

If you have forgotten to take a dose, do not worry. Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Then continue with the treatment as usual.

Do not take extra tablets to make up for a missed dose. Take the next dose at the usual time.

If you stop using this medicine

Do not stop using this medicine without your doctor's advice

Continue using this medicine for 7 days after you return to an area without malaria. Always complete the entire course with Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl AmaroX for maximum protection. If you stop using this medicine too early, you risk still getting malaria. It takes 7 days to kill all the parasites that may have entered the blood after a bite from an infected mosquito.

Do you have any other questions about the use of this medicine? Then contact your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

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

Watch out for any of the serious side effects listed below. These occur in a small number of users, but how often exactly is not known.

Serious allergic reactions - symptoms of this include:

- rash and itching
- sudden wheezing, tightness in the chest or throat, or difficulty breathing (shortness of breath)
- swollen eyelids, face, lips, tongue, or other body part

Contact your doctor immediately if you experience these symptoms. Stop using this medicine.

Serious skin reactions

- skin rash, which may form blisters; these blisters look like small targets (a dark spot in the center, a lighter ring around it, and a dark outer ring) (erythema multiforme)
- severe, widespread skin rash with blisters and peeling, especially around the mouth, nose, eyes, and genitals (Stevens-Johnson syndrome)

Contact your doctor immediately if you notice any of the above symptoms

Most of the other reported side effects are not serious and do not last long:

Side effects that are very common (occur in more than 1 in 10 users):

- headache
- nausea or vomiting
- stomach pain
- diarrhea

Side effects that are common (occur in less than 1 in 10 users)

- dizziness
- sleep problems (insomnia)
- strange dreams
- depression
- loss of appetite
- fever
- rash that may itch severely
- cough

Common side effects that appear from blood tests are:

- reduced number of red blood cells (anemia), which can cause fatigue, headache, and shortness of breath
- low number of white blood cells (neutropenia), making you more susceptible to infections
- low levels of sodium in your blood (hyponatremia)
- increase in liver enzymes

Side effects that sometimes occur (occur in less than 1 in 100 users)

- anxiety
- a strange feeling of unusual heart palpitations
- swelling and redness of the mouth

- hair loss
- itchy rash with bumps (hives, urticaria)

Sometimes occurring side effects that appear from blood tests are:

- an increase in amylase (an enzyme produced in the pancreas)

Side effects that rarely occur (may occur in less than 1 in 1000 people):

- seeing or hearing things that are not there (hallucinations)

Other side effects

Other side effects that have occurred in a small number of people, but how often exactly is not known:

- inflammation of the liver (hepatitis).
- blockage of the bile ducts (cholestasis)
- increased heart rate (tachycardia)
- inflammation of the blood vessels (vasculitis), this inflammation can be visible as red or purple spots on the skin, but can also occur in other parts of the body
- Seizure with muscle twitching (convulsion) (seizures)
- panic attacks, crying
- nightmares
- severe mental problems where the person loses contact with reality and is unable to think clearly and judge
- digestive problems
- mouth ulcers.
- blisters
- flaky skin
- increased sensitivity of the skin to sunlight

Other side effects that appear from blood tests are:

- a decrease in the number of blood cells in general (pancytopenia)

Reporting side effects

If you experience side effects, contact your doctor or pharmacist. This also applies to possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Netherlands Pharmacovigilance Centre Lareb, website: www.lareb.nl.

By reporting side effects, you can help us obtain more information about the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store this medicine?

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date. You can find it on the box after EXP. It includes a month and a year. The last day of that month is the expiry date.

There are no special storage conditions for this medicine.

Do not flush medicines down the sink or toilet and do not throw them in the trash. Ask your pharmacist what to do with medicines you no longer use. They will be destroyed responsibly and will not enter the environment.

6. Contents of the packaging and other information

What substances are in this medicine?

The active substances in this medicine are atovaquone and proguanil hydrochloride. Each tablet contains 250 mg of atovaquone and 100 mg of proguanil hydrochloride.

The other substances in this medicine are:

Tablet core: Poloxamer 188, microcrystalline cellulose (E460), low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose (E463), sodium starch glycolate (type A), colloidal anhydrous silica (E551), povidone K30 (E1201), magnesium stearate (E572)

Tablet coating: hypromellose (E464), titanium dioxide (E171), macrogol (E1521), red iron oxide (E172).

Tell your doctor before taking this medicine if you think you might be allergic to any of these substances.

What does Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl AmaroX look like and what is in a package?

Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl AmaroX 250 mg/100 mg film-coated tablets are round, pink, biconvex, film-coated tablets with 'H' on one side and '175' on the other side.

Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl AmaroX is available in blister packs and HDPE containers

Package sizes:

Alu-Alu blister pack: 1, 12, 21, 24, 28, and 36 film-coated tablets

Alu-PVC blister packaging: 1, 12, 21, 24, 28 and 36 film-coated tablets

HDPE containers: 30 and 100 film-coated tablets

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing authorization holder and manufacturer

Marketing authorization holder

Amarox Pharma B.V.

Rouboslaan 32

2252TR Voorschoten

Netherlands

Manufacturer

Pharmadox Healthcare Ltd.

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Paola, PLA 3000

Malta

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This medicine is registered in EEA member states under the following names:

Netherlands	Atovaquone/Proguanil HCl Amarox 250 mg/100 mg film-coated tablets
Germany	Atovaquone/Proguanil Hydrochloride Amarox 250 mg/100 mg film-coated tablets
United Kingdom	Atovaquone/Proguanil Hydrochloride 250/100 mg film-coated tablets

This leaflet was last approved in March 2023.