

## **Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) Azithromycin Treatment Instructions**

You may have chlamydia and/or gonorrhea. It is important that you get treated. Your sex partner was recently treated for chlamydia and/or gonorrhea, an infection you get from having sex with a person who is already infected. Many people with chlamydia and/or gonorrhea do not know they have the infection because they feel fine.

The best way to take care of yourself is to see a doctor, go to your local health department or visit a family planning clinic. If you choose to go to a doctor, the health department or a family planning clinic, bring the medicine in this package and this information sheet with you. If you are not able to go to your doctor, the health department or a family planning clinic, you should take the medicine in this package.

**Women:** *If you have symptoms of abdominal or pelvic pain, it is important that you see a doctor to be certain you do not have pelvic inflammatory disease (PID). PID can be serious and lead to infertility, pregnancy problems or chronic pelvic pain.*

### **Directions for taking Medicine: Azithromycin (Zithromax)**

These medicines are very safe. However, *you should not take them if you have ever had an allergic reaction (like a rash) to any of these medicines: azithromycin (Zithromax), erythromycin, clarithromycin (Biaxin).* If you are uncertain about whether you have an allergy, call your doctor or pharmacist before taking this medicine. If you have a serious, long-term illness like kidney, liver or heart disease, colitis or stomach problems, talk to your doctor before taking this medication.

**Take all of the medication prescribed to you right away.**

Some people have a mild, upset stomach (which does not last long) after taking this medicine. Other side effects include diarrhea, nausea, stomach ache, and headache. These are common and not dangerous.

**If you throw up within an hour of taking the medicine, it will not work and you will have to get more.** Call the number on the prescription or call (207) 287-3747.

**After taking these medicines, do not have sex for at least 7 days after you and your sex partners have been treated.** The medicine takes 7 days to work. You can get chlamydia and/or gonorrhea again if you have sex before the medicine cures you and your partner.

Do not share these medicines or give them to anyone else. It is important to tell everyone you have had sex with in the last 60 days that they need to go to the doctor.

If you have any questions, please call (207) 287-3747, Maine CDC HIV, STD, & Viral Hepatitis Program.

If you think you may be having bad reactions to this medicine, call your doctor or pharmacist.

If you are having a serious reaction, like difficulty breathing (which is very rare), go to your nearest emergency room and bring the empty medication packet with you.

For more information on STDs, visit: <http://mainepublichealth.gov/std>