Patient Information Leaflet

This leaflet applies only to Paludrine/ Avloclor Anti-Malarial Travel Pack. It does not contain the complete information about this medicine. If there is anything that you do not understand or if you need further information or advice, you should ask your pharmacist or doctor who will have more details.

Both Paludrine and Avloclor belong to a group of medicines called anti-malarials. This means they can be used in certain parts of the world to help prevent malaria.

Ingredients

Paludrine is produced as tablets which contain 100mg of proguanil hydrochloride. Paludrine equally contains the following inactive ingredients: calcium carbonate, gelatin, magnesium stearate and maize starch.

Avloclor is produced as tablets which contain 250mg of chloroquine phosphate (equivalent to 155mg of chloroquine base as the active ingredient). Avloclor equally contains the following inactive ingredients: magnesium stearate and maize starch.

When should your anti-malarial travel pack not be used?

• You should ask your doctor or pharmacist if these are the right anti-malarials for the part of the world that you are visiting
• The tablets are only for you and must never be given to anyone else
• People who live permanently in any malarious areas may acquire partial immunity to malarial and they should obtain individual medical advice before starting malaria prophylaxis

What precautions should be taken with your anti-malarial travel pack?

• Before taking your medicine, tell your doctor or pharmacist if:
  you have ever had problems with your liver or kidneys;
  you have ever been told you have prophyria (rare disease of blood pigment) or anyone in your family has it;
  you have epilepsy, or a history of convulsions, seizures or fits;
  you have psoriasis (a scaly condition of the skin);
  you are pregnant or suspect you are pregnant;
  you are breast feeding (your baby will still need to be given anti-malarial treatment and you should consult your doctor or pharmacist for appropriate advice);
  you are taking any other medicines including those which you have brought.
• Antacids may reduce the absorption of proguanil, so should be taken at least 2-3 hours apart
• If you are taking cyclosporin, chloroquine may cause an increase in cyclosporin levels
• When rabies vaccine is injected into the skin, chloroquine may reduce its effectiveness
• Pregnant women should take medical advice before exposing themselves to the risk of malaria and should contact their doctor before taking any drug to prevent malaria
• When you are taking your medicine to prevent malaria, you should also reduce the chances of being bitten by mosquitoes. Wear light-coloured, long-sleeved clothing and long trousers when out of doors after sunset. Use insect repellent creams or sprays on parts of the body not covered by clothing. Sleep in a properly screened room or under a mosquito net. Spray to kill any mosquitoes that may have entered rooms in spite of screening.
• If you suffer from any fever (high temperature) during or even up to a year after visiting a country where malaria occurs, you should contact your doctor immediately.
• Your doctor may advise to have blood or eye tests if you are taking Avloclor for a long time.
• Avloclor may affect your ability to drive a car or to operate machinery (you may experience blurring of vision or difficulty in focusing your eyes while taking Avloclor)
• If you go into hospital let the medical staff know that you are taking both Paludrine and Avloclor
• Only stop taking your tablets 4 weeks after leaving the malarious area.
How should I use my ‘Paludrine/ Avloclor’ anti-malaria travel pack?

Follow your doctor’s or pharmacist’s instructions about when and how to take your medicine. Also read the label.

Adults:
Two Avloclor tablets should be taken once a week, on the same day each week.
Two Paludrine tablets should be taken daily.

Children:
Do not given to children under 1 year of age. The following single dose of Avloclor should be taken once a week on the same day each week, and the following single dose of Paludrine should be taken daily.

1-4 years
Half an Avloclor tablet on the same day each week
Half a Paludrine tablet at the same time each day

5-8 years
One Avloclor tablet on the same day each week
One Paludrine tablet at the same time each day

9-14 years
One and a half Avloclor tablets on the same day each week
One and a half Paludrine tablets at the same time each day

Adults and Children:
You should start the pack (taking both types of tablet) one week before entering the malarious area and continue during your stay and for 4 weeks after leaving the area. Swallow the tablet (or part tablet) whole with a drink of water, after food. For a young child, the dose may be given crushed with milk, honey or jam.
If you forget to take a dose, take it as soon as you remember and then carry on as before. Do not take two doses at the same time.

Undesirable events

As with all medicines, undesirable events are sometimes experienced. These may include:
• headache
• stomach upset
Other events may sometimes be experienced infrequently or following use for a long period of time:
• mouth ulcers and the inflammation of the mouth
• skin rash or itch
• hair discolouration or hair loss (sometimes reversible)
• blurring of vision or difficulty in focusing your eyes
• convulsions or fits
• mood changes or other effects on behaviour
Do not be alarmed by this list of possible events. You may not have any of them.

Important Additional Information:

Malaria can be fatal. It is essential to take medical advice on which anti-malarial drugs are appropriate.
No medication can be guaranteed to protect you against malaria in every case. Any traveller becoming ill either when visiting a malarious region or even up to a year after returning home should suspect malaria and seek medical advice as soon as possible.