

Primacin

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) summary

The [full CMI](#) on the next page has more details. If you are worried about using this medicine, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

1. Why am I using Primacin?

Primacin contains the active ingredient Primaquine phosphate. Primacin is used to treat the vivax and ovale forms of malaria following an attack. It is also used to aid in the treatment of falciparum malaria.

For more information, see Section [1. Why am I using Primacin?](#) in the full CMI.

2. What should I know before I use Primacin?

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to Primaquine phosphate or any of the ingredients listed at the end of the CMI.

Talk to your doctor if you have any other medical conditions, take any other medicines, or are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.

For more information, see Section [2. What should I know before I use Primacin?](#) in the full CMI.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with Primacin and affect how it works.

A list of these medicines is in Section [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#) in the full CMI.

4. How do I use Primacin?

For adults, 15 mg daily for 14 days. For children, 0.3 mg/kg/day More instructions can be found in Section [4. How do I use Primacin?](#) in the full CMI.

5. What should I know while using Primacin?

Things you should do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist [add other health professionals as appropriate] you visit that you are using Primaquine phosphate.• If you become pregnant while taking this medicine, tell your doctor immediately.
Things you should not do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not stop using this medicine suddenly.• Do not stop taking Primacin or change the dosage without checking with your doctor.
Looking after your medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep Primacin in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C.• Keep it and any other medicine where children cannot reach it.

For more information, see Section [5. What should I know while using \[insert medicine\]?](#) in the full CMI.

6. Are there any side effects?

Common side effects include abdominal cramps and pains, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, headache, rash, itching of the skin.

Serious side effects include dark-coloured urine, irregular heartbeat or slow heart rate, feeling tired, weak, confused or sick, pale or bluish hue to your skin, shortness of breath, fever, pain, tingling or weakness in your arms or legs, sore mouth and gums, mouth ulcers or bleeding gums, serious allergic reaction (swelling of the face, lips, mouth or throat which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing).

For more information, including what to do if you have any side effects, see Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#) in the full CMI.

Primacin

Active ingredient(s): Primaquine phosphate

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using Primacin. **You should also speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like further information or if you have any concerns or questions about using Primacin.**

Where to find information in this leaflet:

- [1. Why am I using Primacin?](#)
- [2. What should I know before I use Primacin?](#)
- [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#)
- [4. How do I use Primacin?](#)
- [5. What should I know while using Primacin?](#)
- [6. Are there any side effects?](#)
- [7. Product details](#)

1. Why am I using Primacin?

Primacin contains the active ingredient Primaquine phosphate. Primacin contains primaquine phosphate. It works by killing the malarial parasite at different stages of its life cycle, both in the blood and in the liver. **Primacin is used to treat the vivax and ovale forms of malaria following an attack. It is also used to aid in the treatment of falciparum malaria.**

2. What should I know before I use Primacin?

Warnings

Do not use Primacin if:

- you are allergic to Primaquine phosphate, or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
- Always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.

Check with your doctor if you:

- have severe glucose-6-phosphate (G6PD) deficiency. You may not know if you have this deficiency but your doctor can do a quick blood test to check. are pregnant
- have rheumatoid arthritis or lupus erythematosus
- are taking quinacrine hydrochloride to treat malaria
- are taking other medicines that affect your red blood cells or bone marrow.

Do not take Primacin if you are allergic to any medicine containing primaquine or other 8- aminoquinolines or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.

During treatment, you may be at risk of developing certain side effects. It is important you understand these risks and how to monitor for them. See additional information under Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#)

Pregnancy and breastfeeding

Check with your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.

Do not take this medicine if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.

The safety of the use of this medicine in women who are pregnant or may become pregnant has not been established.

Do not breastfeed if you are taking this medicine.

Talk to your doctor if you are breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed.

There is no information on the safe use of this medicine during breastfeeding.

Use in Elderly / Use in Older Adults

- Elderly persons are more sensitive to the effects of the medicine.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any medicines, vitamins or supplements that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Some medicines may interfere with Primacin and affect how it works. These

include:

- proguanil, which is used to treat malaria
- medicines that reduce the ability of your bone marrow to produce red blood cells and platelets, such as medicines used in chemotherapy
- some medicines used to treat irregular heartbeat
- ketoconazole, used to treat fungal infections.

The above medicines may be affected by Primacin, or may affect how well it works. You may need different amounts of Primacin, or take it at different times, or you may need to take different medicines.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about what medicines, vitamins or supplements you are taking and if these affect Primacin.

4. How do I use Primacin?

How much to take / use

- The treatment and dose will depend upon the area where you were infected with malaria. In South East Asia and the Pacific region close to Australia (Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands), there are malaria parasites that are more resistant to treatment. If your stay has been in one of these areas, the treatment may include an increased dose of Primacin, or the use of Primacin over a longer period of time.

- The treatment is usually one of the following:

For adults

- 15 mg daily for 14 days up to 30 mg daily for 14 days in areas where resistant malaria strains occur or where treatment has failed with lower doses
- treatment may be extended to 21 days in most of South East Asia and the Pacific region, and other medicines to treat malaria may be given at the same time as Primacin
- if you have G6PD deficiency: up to 45 mg once weekly for 8 weeks
- if you have falciparum malaria: 45 mg as a single dose.

For children

- 0.3 mg/kg/day
- if your child has falciparum malaria: 0.7 - 1.0 mg/kg/day.
- Follow the instructions provided and use Primacin until your doctor tells you to stop. **Read the label carefully and follow all directions given to you by your doctor and pharmacist.** They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet. If you do not understand the instructions on the pack, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.
- Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you are unsure of the correct dose for you.
- They will tell you exactly how much to take. This depends on your condition and whether or not you are taking any other medicines.
- If you take the wrong dose, Primacin may not work as well and your problem may not improve.

When to take / use Primacin

- **Primacin should be used at the same time each day with a meal.**
- Primacin must be taken regularly.
- Taking it at the same time each day will have the best effect. It will also help you to remember when to take it. Make sure that you take Primacin with food, or an upset stomach may occur.

How long to take it

- Continue taking the medicine for as long as your doctor tells you to. Primacin helps to control your condition, but may not cure it.
- **If you feel chilly or have a fever following return from a malaria area, see your doctor even if you have taken a course of tablets.**
- Relapses may occur in some people.
- **Continue taking the tablets until you finish the pack or until your doctor tells you to stop.**
- If you are unsure whether you should stop taking Primacin, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

If you forget to use Primacin

Primacin should be used regularly at the same time each day.

If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to.

Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose you missed.

This may increase the chance of getting an unwanted side effect.

If there is still a long time to go before your next dose, take it as soon as you remember, and then go back to taking it as you would normally.

If you miss more than one dose, consult your doctor.

If you are not sure what to do, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

If you have trouble remembering to take your medicine, ask your pharmacist for hints.

If you use too much Primacin

If you think that you have used too much Primacin, you may need urgent medical attention.

You should immediately:

- phone the Poisons Information Centre (**by calling 13 11 26**), or
- contact your doctor, or
- go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital.

You should do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

Symptoms of an overdose may include:

- abdominal cramps, vomiting or burning pain in the upper abdomen
- irregular heartbeat, slow or increased heart rate
- dark-coloured urine
- feeling tired, weak, dizzy, confused or sick
- headache
- shortness of breath
- fever
- pain, tingling or weakness in your arms or legs
- sore mouth and gums, mouth ulcers or bleeding gums.

5. What should I know while using Primacin?

Things you should do

Keep all of your doctor's appointments so that your progress can be checked.

Your doctor may do tests to check the levels of cells in your blood or check how your heart is working.

See your doctor if you feel that your condition is not improving or is getting worse. Call your doctor straight away if you:

- If you become pregnant while taking this medicine.

Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using Primacin.

Things you should not do

- Do not give your medicine to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.
- This medicine is only intended for the person it has been prescribed for.
- Do not take Primacin to treat any other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.
- Do not stop taking Primacin or change the dosage without checking with your doctor.

Looking after your medicine

- Keep your tablets in the pack until it is time to take them.
- If you take the tablets out of the pack they may not keep well.

Follow the instructions in the carton on how to take care of your medicine properly.

Store it in a cool dry place away from moisture, heat or sunlight; for example, do not store it:

- in the bathroom or near a sink, or
- in the car or on window sills.

Keep Primacin in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C.

Keep it where young children cannot reach it. A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

When to discard your medicine

Do not keep Primacin past its expiry date.

Getting rid of any unwanted medicine

If you no longer need to use this medicine or it is out of date, take it to any pharmacy for safe disposal.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date.

6. Are there any side effects?

All medicines can have side effects. If you do experience any side effects, most of them are minor and temporary. However, some side effects may need medical attention.

See the information below and, if you need to, ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any further questions about side effects.

Less serious side effects

Less serious side effects	What to do
Gastrointestinal Effects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • abdominal cramps and pains • nausea • vomiting Neurological Effects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dizziness • headache Skin and Allergic Reactions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rash • itching of the skin. 	<p>Speak to your doctor if you have any of these less serious side effects and they worry you.</p>

Serious side effects

Serious side effects	What to do
Cardiovascular Effects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • irregular heartbeat or slow heart rate • pale or bluish hue to your skin Urinary / Kidney-Related : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dark-coloured urine General /Constitutional Symptoms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • feeling tired, weak, confused or sick • fever • shortness of breath Neurological Effects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pain, tingling or weakness in your arms or legs Dental Effects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sore mouth and gums, mouth ulcers or bleeding gums. Serious allergic reaction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (swelling of the face, lips, mouth or throat which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing). 	<p>Call your doctor straight away, or go straight to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of these serious side effects.</p>

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that may be making you feel unwell.

Other side effects not listed here may occur in some people.

Reporting side effects

After you have received medical advice for any side effects you experience, you can report side effects to the Therapeutic Goods Administration online at www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

Always make sure you speak to your doctor or pharmacist before you decide to stop taking any of your medicines.

7. Product details

This medicine is only available with a doctor's prescription.

What Primacin contains

Active ingredient (main ingredient)	7.5 mg primaquine base as 13.2 mg primaquine phosphate
Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• lactose• wheat starch• purified talc• gelatine• povidone• magnesium stearate• glycerol
Potential allergens	None

Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients.

What Primacin looks like

Primacin is available in bottles with child-resistant closures of 28 or 56 tablets. The tablets are round, flat, orange uncoated tablets.

AUST R 226430

Who distributes Primacin

Boucher & Muir Pty Ltd
Level 9, 76 Berry Street
North Sydney NSW 2060

This leaflet was prepared in November 2025.