

PRIMAQUINE PHOSPHATE

USP Tablets

(Primaquine phosphate 26.3 mg = Primaquine base 15 mg)

Composition:

Each film-coated tablet contains:

Primaquine Phosphate USP	26.3 mg
Equivalent to Primaquine base	15 mg
Excipients	q.s.

Color: Approved color used.

Uses: Primaquine is used with other medications to prevent and treat malaria caused by mosquito bites in countries where malaria is common. Malaria parasites can enter the body through these mosquito bites and subsequently reside in body tissues, such as red blood cells or the liver. Primaquine is used after other medications (such as chloroquine) have killed the malaria parasites living inside red blood cells. Primaquine kills the malaria parasites living in other body tissues. This prevents the infection from returning. Both drugs are necessary for a complete cure. Primaquine phosphate belongs to a class of medications known as antimalarials.

How to use Primaquine: Take this medication by mouth, usually once daily with food to prevent stomach upset, or as directed by your doctor. Follow your doctor's instructions exactly. Primaquine is generally taken for 2 weeks after leaving the malaria-affected area. It is started during the last 1–2 weeks of your other malaria treatment or immediately after finishing that treatment. Primaquine should not be taken for more than 14 days for malaria treatment. Dosage is based on the type of infection you have and your response to treatment. Take this medication regularly. To help you remember, take it at the same time each day.

Precautions: Before taking primaquine, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are allergic to it; or if you have any other allergies. This product may contain inactive ingredients, which can cause allergic reactions or other problems. Talk to your pharmacist for more details. Before using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist your medical history, especially regarding: immune system disorders (such as lupus, rheumatoid arthritis), blood disorders (such as low white blood cell count, anemia), history of blood problems caused by primaquine (such as hemolytic anemia, methemoglobinemia), personal/family history of favism, and low levels of certain blood enzymes (glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase [G6PD], NADH methemoglobin reductase).

Side effects: Nausea, vomiting, dizziness, stomach pain, and abdominal cramps may occur. If any of these effects persist or worsen, inform your doctor or pharmacist immediately. Remember that your doctor prescribed this medication because they judged that the benefit to you outweighs the risk of side effects. Many people using this medication do not experience serious side effects. Inform your doctor immediately if any of these rare but very serious side effects occur: signs of a serious infection (such as high fever, severe chills, persistent sore throat), signs of a sudden loss of red blood cells (such as severe fatigue, brown urine, pale lips/nails/skin, rapid heartbeat/shortness of breath during usual activities), signs of a specific blood problem (methemoglobinemia, including bluish skin/lips/nails, headache, shortness of breath, dizziness, weakness, confusion, chest pain, sudden rapid heartbeat).

Interactions: Drug interactions may change how your medications work or increase the risk of serious side effects. This document does not contain all possible drug interactions. Keep a list of all products you use (including prescription/non-prescription medicines and herbal products) and share it with your doctor and pharmacist. Do not start, stop, or change the dosage of any medication without your doctor's approval. Some products that may interact with this drug include: penicillamine, quinacrine, and drugs that can cause a decrease in blood cell counts (such as trimethoprim, zidovudine, pyrimethamine, and azathioprine).

Dosage: As directed by a physician.

Storage: Do not store above 30°C; store in a dry place, protected from light.

Presentation: Pack of 10 tablets.

Keep out of reach of children.

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