

The underlisted safety variations have been submitted by Marketing Authorization Holders (MAHs) and approved by the Food and Drugs Authority in line with the Variation Guidelines for Allopathic Medicines. These safety variations are being shared with healthcare professionals and patients.

Safety Updates						
No.	Name of Drug	Active Ingredient(s)	Updated Section	Update	Date of Update	MAH
1	Amoxicillin Dispersible	Amoxicillin	Warnings and Precaution	Revision of texts to read "Please talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets if you: • have infectious mononucleosis (glandular fever) (fever, sore throat, swollen glands and extreme tiredness), have kidney problems, only urinate irregularly" under this section.	12-Feb-20	Sandoz
			Interactions	Addition of texts to include "Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets with food and drink: Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets can be taken before, during and after meals" under this section.		
			Ability to drive and use machines	Addition and revision of texts to read " Caution: This medicine may affect the ability to react and impair the ability to drive. Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets may cause side effects such as allergic reactions and dizziness that may affect your ability to drive" under this section.		
			How to take Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible	Revision of texts to read "There are two possible ways to take the tablets. You can either swallow the tablets with a glass of water, or first dissolve them in water, and then drink them. The tablets can be divided in half to make them easier to swallow" under this section.		
Deletion of heading that read "special dosage recommendations" texts under it that read "Fast breathing pneumonia with no chest indrawing or general danger sign: areas with low HIV prevalence: at least 40 mg/kg per dose twice daily for 3 days, areas with high HIV prevalence: at least 40 mg/kg per dose twice daily for 5 days. Chest indrawing pneumonia: at least 40 mg/kg per dose twice daily for 5 days and deletion of inserted table on doses of Amoxicillin for children 2-59 months of age with pneumonia (WHO recommendation)" under this section.						
			How to take Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible	Addition of texts under Adults, elderly patients, children and adolescents weighing 40 kg or more to read "• Severe infections: 750 mg to 1000 mg three times a day • Urinary tract infections: 3000 mg twice a day for one day. • Borreliosis (Lyme disease, an infection spread by ticks): Isolated erythema migrans (early stage, red or pink round rash): 4000 mg a day, systematic manifestation (late stage - in case of several serious symptoms or if the disease has spread through the body): up to 6000 mg a day. • Stomach ulcer: one 750 mg or 1000 mg dose twice daily for 7 days with other antibiotics and medicines for treating stomach ulcers. • To prevent a heart infection during surgery: The dosage varies depending on the type of surgery. Other medicines may also be used at the same time. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you more details. • The recommended maximum dosage is 6000 mg a day." under this section.		

No.	Name of Drug	Active Ingredient(s)	Updated Section	Update	Date of Update	MAH
1	Amoxicillin Dispersible	Amoxicillin	How to take Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible	<p>Addition of texts to read "Patients with kidney problems If you have kidney problems, the dosage may be lower than the normal dosage.</p> <p>If you take more Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets than you should If you have taken too much Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets, this might lead to stomach problems (nausea, vomiting or diarrhoea) or the formation of crystals in your urine, which you may notice as cloudy urine or problems urinating. Contact to your doctor as soon as possible. Take the medicine with you and show it to your doctor.</p> <p>If you have forgotten to take Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets If you forget to take a dose, take one as soon as you remember. Do not take the next dose too early, but instead wait around 4 hours before taking the next dose. Do not take a double dose if you have forgotten to take the previous dose.</p> <p>How long you should take Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets for Take Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets for as long as your doctor has prescribed, even if you already feel better. You need every dose prescribed to help fight the infection. If some bacteria survive, they can cause the infection to come back.</p> <p>Consult your doctor if your treatment is completed and you still feel unwell" under this section.</p> <hr/> <p>Addition of texts to read " Thrush (a yeast infection of moist body regions that can cause pain, itching and white discharge) can appear when Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets is used for long periods. Inform your doctor immediately if this occurs.</p> <p>If you take Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets for a long time, your doctor will carry out additional tests to check that your kidneys, liver and blood are functioning normally.</p> <p>If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, contact your doctor or pharmacist." under this section.</p>	12-Feb-20	Sandoz

No.	Name of Drug	Active Ingredient(s)	Updated Section	Update	Date of Update	MAH
1	Amoxicillin Dispersible	Amoxicillin	Possible Side Effects	<p>Revision of texts to read "Like all medicines, this medicine may cause side effects, although not everybody experiences them.</p> <p>If you notice any of the following severe side effects, stop taking Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets and contact your doctor immediately—you may need urgent medical care:</p> <p>The following side effects are very rare (can affect up to 1 in 10,000 patients):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allergic reactions; the symptoms can include: itchy skin or rash, swelling of the face, lips, tongue, the body or difficulty breathing. This can be serious and in uncommon cases has resulted in death. • Rash or pinhead-sized, flat, red, round spots under the surface of the skin or small areas of bleeding under the skin. This occurs with allergic reactions due to inflammation of the blood vessel walls. There may be associated joint pain (arthritis) and kidney problems." under this section. <hr/> <p>Revision of texts to read "• A delayed allergic reaction can usually occur 7 to 12 days after taking Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets. Symptoms include: rash, fever, joint pain and enlarged lymph nodes, especially under the arms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A skin reaction known as "erythema multiforme"; symptoms include: itchy, reddish-purple spots on the skin and especially on the palms of the hands or soles of the feet, "honeycomb" raised swollen areas on the skin, sensitive areas in the mouth, eyes and genital areas. You may have a fever and feel very tired. • Other severe skin reactions could include: Changing of the skin colour, lumps under the skin, blisters, pustules, peeling of the skin, redness, pain, itching, dandruff. These may be associated with fever, headaches and body aches. • Flu-like symptoms with rash, fever and swollen glands and abnormal blood values (including increased levels of white blood cells [eosinophilia] and liver enzymes) (drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms [DRESS]) • Fever, shivering, sore throat or other symptoms of an infection, or if you tend you bruise easily. These may be signs that you have a blood cell problem." under this section. 	12-Feb-20	Sandoz

No.	Name of Drug	Active Ingredient(s)	Updated Section	Update	Date of Update	MAH
1	Amoxicillin Dispersible	Amoxicillin	Possible Side Effects	<p>Revision of texts to read "• The Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction, which can occur during treatment of borreliosis with Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets, causes fever, shivering, headache, muscle ache and rash.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inflammation of the large intestine (colon) with diarrhoea (sometimes containing blood), pain and fever. • Severe side effects of the liver can occur. These mainly affect people who have received treatment for a long period, men and elderly people. You must contact your doctor immediately if you notice any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - severe, bloody diarrhoea - blisters, redness or small areas of bleeding under the skin - dark urine or paler stool - yellowing of the skin or of the whites of the eyes (jaundice). See also anaemia below, which can lead to jaundice. <p>This can happen while you are taking the medicine or up to several weeks afterwards." under this section.</p> <hr/> <p>Revision of texts to read "If you have one of the side effects listed above, stop taking this medicine and contact your doctor immediately.</p> <p>Sometimes less severe skin reactions can occur, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a mild, itchy rash (round, pink-red spots), 'honeycomb' swollen areas on the forearms, legs, palms of the hands and soles of the feet. This is uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 persons treated). <p>If you notice at least one of these side effects, consult your doctor, as the treatment with Amoxicillin 250 mg dispersible tablets will have to be stopped.</p> <p>The other side effects are:</p> <p>Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 persons treated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rash • Nausea • Diarrhoea <p>Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 persons treated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nausea (vomiting)" under this section. 	12-Feb-20	Sandoz

No.	Name of Drug	Active Ingredient(s)	Updated Section	Update	Date of Update	MAH
1	Amoxicillin Dispersible	Amoxicillin	Possible Side Effects	<p>Revision of texts to read "Very rare (may affect up to 1 in 10,000 persons treated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thrush (a yeast infection of the vagina, the mouth, or in folds of skin). You may receive a treatment for thrush from your doctor. • Kidney problems • Seizures (spasms) have been seen in patients taking high doses or in patients with kidney problems • Hyperactivity <p>Formation of crystals in the urine, which you may notice as cloudy urine, or problems urinating. Make sure to drink enough fluids in order to reduce the risk" under this section.</p> <hr/> <p>Revision of texts to read " Reduced number of white blood cells, Reduced number of cells involved within blood clotting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The blood may take longer than usual to clot than it normally would.. You may notice this if you have nose bleeds or cut yourself. • Discolouration of the surface of the teeth: This discolouration can be removed by brushing your teeth. <p>Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from available data)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inflammation of the protective membrane that surrounds the brain (aseptic meningitis) " under this section. 	12-Feb-20	Sandoz
2	Azomax	Azithromycin	Warnings and Precaution	Addition of texts to include "Do not use Azomax to treat malaria either alone or in combination with chloroquine or arthemisin based drugs as non inferior to recommended drugs for uncomplicated malaria" under this section.	12-May-20	Sandoz
		Pregnancy and breast-feeding	Addition of texts to include "Though serious adverse effects on breast fed infants have not been observed.(the risk benefit ratio should be considered)" under this section.			
		How to take Azomax	Revision of texts to read "For uncomplicated genital infection from Chlamydia trachomatis or sensitive Neisseria gonorrhoea , it is taken as a 1 day course: 1 day course: 1,000 mg (four 250 mg tablets or two 500 mg tablets or 25mls of the prepared suspension)" under this section.			
		Possible Side Effects	Revision and addition of "Drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms(DRESS) , Numbness(Hypoaesthesia) Impaired hearing with ringing in the head, Pounding of the heart (palpitation), Inflammation of the liver, Steven-Johnson syndrome, Photo sensitivity, Weakness and generally feeling unwell, tiredness" as uncommon side effects to rare side effects " under this section.			

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3	Colestop	Atorvastatin	What you need to know before taking	Addition of texts to include " Do not use colestop If you use letermovir with ciclosporin" under this section.	11-May-20	Sandoz
			Interactions	Addition of drug to include "letermovir" under this section. Addition of texts to include " Do not use colestop If you use letermovir with ciclosporin" under this section.		
4	Diclofenac	Diclofenac	Special warnings and precautions for use	Addition of texts under bleeding of the gastrointestinal tract, ulcers and perforation to include "NSAIDs, including diclofenac, may be associated with increased risk of gastro-intestinal anastomotic leak. Close medical surveillance and caution are recommended when using Voltaren after gastro-intestinal surgery". under this section.	12-May-20	Sandoz
5	Ecalta	Anidulafungin	Posology and method of administration	Addition of heading to read "Adult patients: For patients with hereditary fructose intolerance (HFI) see Section 4.4." under this section. Deletion of texts that read "Children and adolescents: The experience in child is limited (see section 5.2). Use in patients under 18 is not recommended until further data becomes available, unless the potential benefits justifies the risks" under this section.	05-May-20	Pfizer
			Special warnings and precautions for use	Addition of texts to include "Patients with hereditary fructose intolerance: Patients with hereditary fructose intolerance (HFI) should not be given this medicine unless strictly necessary. A detailed history with regard to HFI symptoms should be taken of each patient prior to being given this medicinal product" under this section.		
			Pharmacokinetic properties	Deletion of texts under special population that read "Pediatric: The pharmacokinetics of anidulafungin after daily doses were investigated in 24 immunocompromised paediatric (2 to 11 years old) and adolescent (12 to 17 years old) patients with neutropenia. The steady state was achieved on the first day after a loading dose (twice the maintenance dose), and the steady state Cmax and AUCs increase in a dose-proportional manner. The systemic exposures following the daily maintenance doses, 0.75 and 1.5 mg/kg/day in patients aged 2 to 17 years old were comparable to those observed in adults following 50 and 100 mg/day, respectively" under this section.		
			Special precautions for disposal and other handling	Addition of texts to include "The infusion solution must not be frozen" under this section.		

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6	Epirubicin	Epirubicin hydrochloride	Therapeutic Indication	Revision of texts to read "Epirubicin Sandoz is also used to help treat or prevent recurrence of bladder after surgery. (intravesical use)" under this section.	12-Feb-20	Sandoz
			Pregnancy and breast-feeding	Addition of texts to read "Do not take epirubicin if you are breast feeding" under this section.		
			Ability to drive and use machines	Deletion of texts that read " No studies on the effect of the ability to drive and use machines have been performed with Epirubicin" under this section. Addition of texts to read "There have been no reports of adverse events relating to effects on ability to drive and use machines" under this section.		
7	Herceptin	Trastuzumab	Indication	Deletion of heading that read " potential use" under this section.	19-Jun-20	Roche
			Dosage and Administration	Addition of texts to read "To ensure the traceability of biological medicinal products, it is recommended that the trade name and batch number be documented with every treatment." under this section.		
			Warnings and Precaution	Deletion of texts that read " In order to improve the traceability of biologicals, the trade name Herceptin must be clearly entered into the patients record. Replacement by another biological requires the consent of the prescribing physician. Data in this prescribing information relate to only Herceptin." under this section.		
			Undesirable effects	Addition of texts under metabolic and nutritional disorder to read "tumour lysis syndrome" under this section.		
			Instructions for handling	Addition of texts to read "Care must be taken to ensure the sterility of the solutions when preparing the concentrate and ready-to-use solution for infusion" under this section. Addition of texts to read "Do not freeze reconstituted concentrate" under this section.		

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8	Pregabalin	Pregabalin	Warnings and Precaution	Addition of texts to read "Severe respiratory depression may occur. Patients with compromised respiratory, neurological, or renal impairment and the elderly might be more at risk" under this section.	12-May-20	Sandoz
			Interactions	Addition of texts to read "Caution is advised when prescribing pregabalin concomitantly with Opiods even at low doses of pregabalin" under this section.		
9	Vermox	Mebendazole	Pregnancy and breast-feeding	Deletion of texts that read "Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking any medicine if you are pregnant or breast-feeding" under this section.	02-Jun-20	Janssen
			Warnings and Precaution	Addition of heading to include "warnings and precautions" under this section. Addition of texts to include "• Vermox suspension should not be given to children under 2 years of age. Vermox should only be given to younger children if your doctor has specifically prescribed it. Your doctor will decide whether Vermox is suitable for your child. You must follow the doctor's instructions carefully" under this section..		
			Possible Side Effects	Addition of an uncommon and rare side effects to read " Feeling sick (nausea) or being sick (vomiting)" and "• Inflammation of the kidneys" respectively." under this section.		