FAIRVIEW PHARMACY — EST. 1978

Taking amoxicillin safely

amoxicillin · penicillin-type antibiotic

3 MISTAKES TO AVOID

1. **Stopping early**
   Antibiotics work best when you take every dose until the bottle is empty.
2. **Empty-stomach dosing**
   Take it at the start of a meal to lower the chance of an upset stomach.
3. **Not telling us everything**
   It can affect birth control pills, and allopurinol raises the chance of a rash.

How to take it

- **Take every dose**, spaced evenly through the day, until the bottle is empty, even once you feel well.
- **Take it at the start of a meal.** Food lowers the chance of an upset stomach.
- **Liquid form:** measure with the marked dosing syringe or cup, never a kitchen spoon. Shake well first.
- Amoxicillin treats bacteria, not colds, the flu, or other viruses.

Tell your pharmacist before you start (mistake #3)

- **Birth control pills:** amoxicillin can make them work less well. Ask your provider about a backup method.
- **Allopurinol:** raises the chance of a rash.
  Mononucleosis (mono): tell your provider first; amoxicillin often causes a rash in people with mono.
- Show us your full medicine list, including warfarin and probenecid.

IMPORTANT

Diarrhea or vomiting? Call your doctor for watery or bloody diarrhea, or repeated vomiting after a dose, even weeks after you finish — it can be a serious gut infection called C diff.

Call your doctor right away if you notice

- A new rash, hives, mouth sores, or any other sign of an allergy

EMERGENCY: CALL 911

Trouble breathing, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or throat, or a severe blistering or peeling rash: stop amoxicillin and get medical help right away.

Good to know

Amoxicillin only treats infections caused by bacteria, not colds or the flu. Taking it exactly as directed helps keep it working.

Questions? Ask Dr. Mike at fairviewpharm.com/medications

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Medically reviewed by Dr. Mike Acheampong, Pharmacist, Fairview Pharmacy · October 2026

This handout is for education only and is not medical advice. Talk with your doctor or pharmacist about your medicines.
Source: FDA prescribing information for AMOXICILLIN capsules (Hikma, rev. 3/2026). Brand names are trademarks of their owners.

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