

Q200 & Q300



Quinine Sulfate 200mg and 300mg Tablets

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Q200 & Q300. It does not contain all the information available on this medicine. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist. All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of using Q200 & Q300 against the benefits they expect it will have for you. If you have any concerns about using this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist. Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.

What Q200 & Q300 is used for and how it works

Your Q200 or Q300 tablets contain the active ingredient quinine sulfate. It belongs to a group of medicines called antimalarials.

Q200 & Q300 tablets are used in the treatment with patients with malaria, often in conjunction with other medications. Q200 & Q300 tablets are also used to relieve muscle spasms (myotonia).

Q200 & Q300 works by interfering with the growth of the parasite that causes malaria. It also acts on the muscles making them more relaxed.

Your doctor may, however, prescribe Q200 or Q300 for another reason. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why Q200 or Q300 has been prescribed for you.

There is no evidence that either Q200 & Q300 is addictive.

Q200 & Q300 tablets are available on prescription from your doctor.

Before you take Q200 or Q300

When you must not take it

Do not take Q200 or Q300 if:

You are allergic to quinine sulfate or any other ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet

You have a condition that affects your red blood cells (haemolysis)

You have optic neuritis (a disease of the nerves of the eye, causing blindness)

You have tinnitus (ringing in the ears)

Symptoms of an allergic reaction may include shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathing, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body; rash, itching or hives on the skin.

Before you take it

Tell your doctor if you:

have had 'Blackwater' fever (caused by a type of malaria)

have glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency (G6PD) – an inherited condition

suffer from myasthenia gravis – a condition causing muscle weakness

have irregular heart beats or other heart problems
If you are pregnant or plan on becoming pregnant
If you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, or any other medical condition, tell him/her before you start taking Q200 or Q300.

Taking other medicines

If you are taking any other medicines, including any you get without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop, tell your doctor or pharmacist.

Medicines that may interfere with Q200 & Q300 include:

- Medicines used to prevent blood clots, such as warfarin
- Antihistamines, used to treat allergies
- Bucizine, cyclizine and meclizine, used to treat motion sickness
- Medicines used to treat mental and psychotic conditions eg. Phenothiazines and thioxanthenes
- Medicines used to treat a muscle disease known as myasthenia gravis
- Medicines used to treat abnormal heart rhythms or other heart problems eg. digoxin and digitoxin, flecainide and quinidine
- Medicines that can be neurotoxic (destructive to nerve tissue)
- Medicines that can be ototoxic (ie. have a detrimental effect on the eighth nerve in the ear or on the organs of hearing and balance)
- Medicines that cause haemolysis (break down red blood cells)
- Other medicines for malaria, such as mefloquine
- Neuromuscular blocking agents which are used to prevent muscle contraction in surgery
- Cimetidine, a medicine commonly used to treat reflux and ulcers

These medicines may be affected by Q200 & Q300 or may affect how well Q200 & Q300 works. You may need different amounts of your medicines or you may need to take different medicines.

Avoid drinking large amounts of tonic water and bitter lemon drinks while you are taking Q300 or Q300. Quinine is commonly found in these beverages and may increase the risk of side effects from Q200 & Q300.

Your doctor or pharmacist has more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while taking Q200 or Q300.

How to take Q200 & Q300 properly

How much to take

Your doctor will tell you how much Q200 or Q300 you need to take each day. It is important that you take the Q200 or Q300 tablets as directed by your doctor. Do not take more than the recommended dose.

The usual starting dose in adults with malaria is 600mg to 650mg every 8 hours for at least 3 days. This may vary depending on the type of organism that has caused you to have malaria.

For the treatment for muscle spasms, the usual starting dose is 300mg to 650mg 2 or 3 times a day.

In children the usual doses that are stated above will differ. Your doctor will determine the dose according to the child's body weight.

Follow all directions given by your doctor and pharmacist carefully, even if their directions are different from those stated.

How to take it

Swallow the tablets whole (do not crush or chew) with a glass of water.

Q200 & Q300 are best taken with or after a meal.

How long to take it

Continue taking your Q200 or Q300 tablets for as long as your doctor tells you to.

If you forget a dose

If you forget a dose, just take the next dose when it is due. Do not take more than one dose at a time to make up for missed doses. This may increase the chance of you experiencing an unwanted side effect.

Taking your medicine at the same time each day may help you to remember to take it regularly. If you have trouble remembering to take your medicine, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

While you are taking Q200 or Q300

Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are taking Q200 or Q300 tablets.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist that you are taking Q200 or Q300 before you start any new medicine.

Tell your doctor if you develop a skin rash or hives, or you become pregnant while taking Q200 or Q300.

If you are going to have a surgery, tell the surgeon or anaesthetist that you are taking Q200 or Q300.

If you are going to have any blood tests, tell your doctor that you are taking Q200 or Q300 tablets.

Do not take Q200 or Q300 to treat any other complaints unless your doctor tells you to do so.

Do not stop taking Q200 or Q300 or lower the dose without first checking with your doctor.

Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if their symptoms seem similar to yours.

Q200 & Q300 tablets may cause dizziness and affect vision in some people. Be careful when driving, operating machinery or performing jobs that need you to be alert, until you are certain that Q200 or Q300 does not affect your performance.

Side effects

Tell your pharmacist or doctor as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking Q200 or Q300.

All medicines can have some unwanted effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side effects.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following and they worry you:

Ringing in your ears, loss of hearing
Headache, dizziness
Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain
Blurred vision (mild)

These are some of the more common side effects of quinine and are usually associated with long-term treatment of Q200 & Q300.

Tell your doctor immediately, or go to accident and emergency if you notice any of the following:

Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
Flushing or rash of the skin, itching, or swelling
Increased or unexplained bruising, bleeding more readily and for longer periods of time
Signs of frequent infections such as fever, chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers
Chest pain, irregular heart beats
Decreased or no urine production or a reddish colour in the urine.

These can be very severe side effects of quinine. If you have them you may have had an allergic reaction to quinine. You may need urgent medical attention. All of these side effects are very rare.

The list of side effects mentioned above is not complete. If you should suffer from any of these side effects or any other undesired effect please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

In case of overdose

Immediately contact your doctor or the National Poisons Information Centre (0800 POISON or 0800 764 766) or go to the Emergency department at your nearest hospital, if you think that you may have taken too much, or if anyone else has taken any Q200 or Q300 by mistake. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention. Take the container of Q200 or Q300 with you if you can.

Keep telephone numbers for these places handy.

Storage conditions

Do not take this medicine after the expiry date shown on the label or if the packaging shows signs of tampering.

Keep your Q200 or Q300 tablets in the container until it is time to take them.

Store below 25°C and out of reach of children. Avoid exposure to heat, light and moisture.

Do not store Q200 or Q300, or any other medicine, in the bathroom or near a sink.

Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop taking Q200 or Q300 or if the tablets have passed the expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with the remaining medicine.

Product Description

What Q200 & Q300 tablets look like

Q200: 200mg tablets are white, round tablets with a clear film coat. They are marked with "Q200" on one side.

Q300: 300mg tablets are white, round tablets with a clear film coat. They are marked with "Q300" on one side.

Each Q200 & Q300 tablet contains the active ingredient, quinine sulfate.

Each Q200 tablet and Q300 tablet also contains the ingredients lactose monohydrate, povidone, sodium starch glycolate, magnesium stearate and the film coat (diethyl phthalate, hypromellose and carnauba wax).

If you want to know more

Should you have any questions regarding this product, please contact your doctor or pharmacist.

Who supplies this medicine

Distributed in New Zealand by:

Mylan New Zealand Ltd,
PO Box 11183,
Ellerslie,
Auckland.

Telephone: (09) 579 2792

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