

Primaquine:

Class: Aminoquinoline (Antimalarial).

Indications: Prevention of relapse of *P. vivax* malaria.

Available dosage form in the hospital: 15MG TAB.

Dosage:

-Malaria: Oral:

- *Treatment or prevention of relapse of P. vivax malaria:* 30 mg once daily for 14 days
- *Treatment of uncomplicated P. vivax and P. ovale malaria (unlabeled use):* 30 mg once daily for 14 days with chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine; alternative regimen (for mild G6PD deficiency or as an alternative to daily regimen): 45 mg once weekly for 8 weeks (use only after consultation with an infectious disease/tropical medicine expert) (CDC, 2011)
- *Chemoprophylaxis (unlabeled use):* 30 mg once daily; start 1-2 days prior to travel and continue for 7 days after departure from malaria-endemic area (CDC, 2012)
- *Presumptive antirelapse therapy for P. vivax and P. ovale malaria (unlabeled use):* 30 mg once daily for 14 days after departure from malaria-endemic area (CDC, 2012)

-Pneumocystis jirovecii pneumonia treatment (unlabeled use): Oral: CDC recommendation (as alternative): 30 mg once daily for 21 days (in combination with clindamycin).

Common side effect:

Central nervous system: Headache

Dermatologic: Pruritus

Gastrointestinal: Abdominal cramps, dyspepsia, nausea, vomiting

Hematologic: Hemolytic anemia (in patients with G6PD deficiency), leukopenia, leukocytosis.

Ocular: Interference with visual accommodation

Pregnancy Risk Factor: Primaquine has not been formally assigned to a pregnancy category by the FDA.