PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Baloxavir Marboxil

This information from UpToDate® Lexidrug™ explains what you need to know about this medication, including what it's used for, how to take it, its side effects, and when to call your healthcare provider.

Brand Names: US

Xofluza (40 MG Dose); Xofluza (80 MG Dose)

Brand Names: Canada

Xofluza (20 MG Dose); Xofluza (40 MG Dose); Xofluza (80 MG Dose)

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat the flu.
- It is used to lower the chance of giving the flu to other people.
- It is used to prevent the flu after contact with someone who has the flu.

What do I need to tell the doctor BEFORE my child takes this drug?

- If your child is allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell the doctor about the allergy and what signs your child had.
- If the patient is a child younger than 5 years of age. This drug is not approved for use in children younger than 5 years of age.

This drug may interact with other drugs or health problems.

Tell the doctor and pharmacist about all of your child's drugs (prescription or

OTC, natural products, vitamins) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe to give this drug with all of your child's other drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug your child takes without checking with the doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while my child takes this drug?

- Tell all of your child's health care providers that your child is taking this drug. This includes your child's doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Talk with the doctor before your child gets a nasal flu vaccine after taking this drug or if your child has recently gotten a nasal flu vaccine. The nasal flu vaccine may not work as well.

If your child is pregnant or breast-feeding a baby:

- Talk with the doctor if your child is pregnant, becomes pregnant, or is breast-feeding a baby. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to your child and the baby.

What are some side effects that I need to call my child's doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your child's doctor or get medical help right away if your child has any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Dizziness or passing out.

What are some other side effects of this drug?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your child's doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother your child or do not go away:

- Diarrhea, upset stomach, or throwing up.
- Signs of a common cold.
- Nose or throat irritation.
- Headache.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your child's doctor. Call your child's doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

How is this drug best given?

Give this drug as ordered by your child's doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

All products:

- Give this drug as soon as you can within 48 hours after the start of flu-like signs or contact with someone who has the flu.
- Give this drug with or without food.
- Do not give this drug at the same time as dairy products or other foods or drinks with calcium in them. Do not give this drug at the same time as antacids, laxatives, or other products that have calcium, iron, aluminum, magnesium, selenium, or zinc. If you have questions, talk with your child's doctor or pharmacist.

Oral suspension (bottle):

- This drug will be mixed by a doctor or pharmacist.
- Swirl the bottle well before use. Do not shake.
- Have your child sit or stand to take this drug. Do not give this drug while your child is lying down.
- Do not mix with any other foods or liquids.
- Give this drug within 10 hours after it was mixed. If you do not give this drug within 10 hours after it was mixed, throw it away and call the doctor or pharmacist.
- Some doses may need more than 1 bottle or less than 1 bottle of this drug. Be sure you know how much of this drug to give for your child's dose. If you have questions, talk with the doctor.
- Measure liquid doses carefully. Use the measuring device that comes with this drug. If there is none, ask the pharmacist for a device to measure this drug.
- Those who have feeding tubes may use this drug. Use as you have been told. Flush the feeding tube after this drug is given.

Oral suspension (packets):

- Mix 1 packet in a small container with 15 to 20 mL room temperature drinking water. Swirl the container for 1 minute or until the powder is fully dissolved. Have your child drink right away after mixing. Do not store for use at a later time. If more than 1 packet is needed for your child's dose, mix and give the packets separately. Do not put them together.
- Those who have feeding tubes may use this drug. Use as you have been told. Flush the feeding tube after this drug is given.

What do I do if my child misses a dose?

- Only 1 dose of this drug is needed. If your child missed the dose, give it as soon as you think about it.

How do I store and/or throw out this drug?

All products:

- Store in the original container at room temperature.
- Store in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.

Oral suspension:

- Protect from heat.

General drug facts

- If your child's symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your child's doctor.
- Do not share your child's drug with others and do not give anyone else's drug to your child.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your child's doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

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Last Reviewed Date

2025-06-19

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If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

Baloxavir Marboxil - Last updated on December 12, 2022
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