

# Linezolid (Zyvox®)

## (pediatrics)

Linezolid is an antibiotic used to treat serious infections known as methacillin-resistant Staph aureus (MRSA).

### Giving Linezolid

Linezolid may be given by mouth as a tablet or liquid. It should be given on a regular schedule as ordered by your doctor. If your child is taking the liquid form, shake the bottle well before measuring. Measure out the dose with a specially marked spoon or syringe. Linezolid may also be given by IV (in a vein).

### Storing Linezolid

- Keep linezolid in its original bottle
- Keep linezolid out of the reach of children.
- Store in a cool, dry place away from sunlight.

### If Your Child Misses A Dose

Give the dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and give the schedule one. Do not give a double dose.

### Special Instructions

- Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all the medicines your child is taking. Linezolid could mix with other medicines and change the way medicines work or cause unwanted side effects.
- Do not give any other medicines, including over-the-counter, vitamins or herbal products without first checking with your child's doctor or pharmacist. Some over-the-counter medicines, vitamins or herbal products may have to be stopped 14 days before starting linezolid.
- Here are specific medicines to watch for when starting linezolid:
  - high blood pressure
  - depression
  - cold or congestion



## Special Diet Instructions

Patients that take linezolid should be on a low tyramine diet. Linezolid can block the breakdown of tyramine. Too much tyramine in the body can cause high blood pressure, bad headaches, decreased activity or a general sense of not feeling well. Some foods and drinks have higher amounts of tyramine. They should be avoided while your child is taking linezolid. These products contain tyramine:

- Alcoholic beverages, including wine and beer
- Homemade yeast breads; products made with yeast
- Breads and crackers containing cheese
- Sour cream and yogurt
- Aged game
- Liver, chicken liver
- Canned meats
- Commercial meat extracts
- Smoked or highly cured meats: salami, sausage, bacon, pepperoni, dried beef
- Aged cheese: american, blue, brick, brie, camembert, cheddar, colby, emmenthaler, gouda, mozzarella, parmesan, provolone, romano, roquefort
- Salted dried fish: herring, cod, camlin, pickled herring
- Italian broad (fava) beans
- Eggplant, avocados, bananas, raisins, sauerkraut, miso soup
- Commercial gravies or meat extracts
- Soy sauce
- Any spoiled or improperly stored food
- Caviar
- Ginseng
- Caffeine-containing products: colas, coffee, tea and chocolate
- Nuts
- Dried fruits

## Side Effects

Linezolid may cause a decrease in white blood cells (blood cells that help fight infection). The doctor may order blood tests to check blood cell counts.

### Other possible side effects:

- Headache
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

## When To Call The Doctor

Call your doctor **right away** if your child has:

- a skin rash or itching
- bad nausea or vomiting
- trouble breathing
- a bad headache
- bad diarrhea
- unusual bruising or bleeding
- feeling very tired or weak



If **ANYONE** accidentally swallows this medicine, call Poison Control right away:  
**1-800-222-1222**

Keep **ALL** medicines out of the reach of children.