



ADR

Tip of the Month

Azithromycin – Potentially fatal cardiac arrhythmias

Rare cases of QT prolongation and *torsades de pointes* have been reported in patients receiving therapeutic doses of azithromycin, a macrolide antibiotic.

Physicians should be aware of higher risk in patients with:

- Congenital or documented QT prolongation
- Clinically relevant bradycardia, cardiac arrhythmia or cardiac insufficiency
- Electrolyte disturbance, particularly in cases of hypokalaemia and hypomagnesemia
- Treatment with other active substances known to prolong QT interval, such as antipsychotic agents, antidepressants and fluoroquinolones.

Please report all suspected adverse drug reactions (ADRs).