Azithromycin (Zithromax)

**Indication(s):** Gastroenteritis

**Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity to azithromycin or to other macrolides.

**Precautions:** Reports of QT Prolongation – Macrolide class effect – Review patient’s current pharmacotherapy and comorbidities (cardiac) before supplying.

**Drug Interactions:** Antacids containing aluminum and magnesium (e.g. Maalox) can reduce the peak serum levels of azithromycin (Avoid Combo).

**Adverse effects:** Usually well tolerated (~ 0.7% discontinuation rate due to AEs). (≤ 1%) Hypertension, dry mouth, esophagitis, vaginitis, conjunctivitis, dizziness, pruritus, jaundice.

**Pharmacology:** Prolonged half-life (days) therefore effects will continue for 5-7 days after medications are stopped.

**Dosage and Administration:** 500mg PO x 3 days or 1000mg PO as single dose.