

BABESIOSIS (*Babesia microti*)

	Drug	Adult dosage	Pediatric dosage
Drug of choice: ¹	Clindamycin ^{2,3}	1.2 g bid IV or 600 mg tid PO x 7-10d	20-40 mg/kg/d PO in 3 doses x 7-10d
	plus quinine ^{2,4}	650 mg PO tid x 7-10d	30 mg/kg/d PO in 3 doses x 7-10d
	OR Atovaquone ^{2,5}	750 mg PO bid x 7-10d	40 mg/kg/d PO in 2 doses x 7-10d
	plus azithromycin ²	600 mg PO daily x 7-10d	12 mg/kg/d PO x 7-10d

1. Exchange transfusion has been used in severely ill patients and those with high (>10%) parasitemia (VI Powell and K Grima, Transfus Med Rev 2002; 16:239). In patients who were not severely ill, combination therapy with atovaquone and azithromycin was as effective as clindamycin and quinine and may have been better tolerated (PJ Krause et al, N Engl J Med 2000; 343:1454). Longer treatment courses may be needed in immunosuppressed patients and those with asplenia. Patients are commonly co-infected with Lyme disease (Med Lett Drugs Ther 2007; 49:49; AC Steere et al, Clin Infect Dis 2003; 36:1078).
2. Not FDA-approved for this indication.
3. Oral clindamycin should be taken with a full glass of water to minimize esophageal ulceration.
4. Quinine should be taken with or after a meal to decrease gastrointestinal adverse effects.
5. Atovaquone is available in an oral suspension that should be taken with a meal to increase absorption.

Information provided by The Medical Letter. For a copy of the entire **Drugs for Parasitic Infections** article, go to: www.medicalletter.org/parasitic_cdc

MANUFACTURERS OF DRUGS USED TO TREAT PARASITIC INFECTIONS

- albendazole – *Albenza* (GlaxoSmithKline)
- Albenza* (GlaxoSmithKline) – albendazole
- Alinia* (Romark) – nitazoxanide
- AmBisome* (Gilead) – amphotericin B, liposomal
- amphotericin B – *Fungizone* (Apothecon), others
- amphotericin B, liposomal – *AmBisome* (Gilead)
- Ancobon* (Valeant) – flucytosine
- § *Antiminth* (Pfizer) – pyrantel pamoate
- *Aralen* (Sanofi) – chloroquine HCl and chloroquine phosphate
- § artemether – *Artenam* (Arenco, Belgium)
- § artemether/lumefantrine – *Coartem*, *Riamet* (Novartis)
- § *Artenam* (Arenco, Belgium) – artemether
- § artesunate – (Guilin No. 1 Factory, People's Republic of China)
- atovaquone – *Mepron* (GlaxoSmithKline)
- atovaquone/proguanil – *Malarone* (GlaxoSmithKline)
- azithromycin – *Zithromax* (Pfizer), others
- *Bactrim* (Roche) – TMP/Sulfa
- § benznidazole – *Rochagan* (Brazil)
- *Biaxin* (Abbott) – clarithromycin
- § *Biltricide* (Bayer) – praziquantel
- † bithionol – *Bitin* (Tanabe, Japan)
- † *Bitin* (Tanabe, Japan) – bithionol
- § *Brolene* (Aventis, Canada) – propamidine isethionate
- chloroquine HCl and chloroquine phosphate – *Aralen* (Sanofi), others
- clarithromycin – *Biaxin* (Abbott), others
- *Cleocin* (Pfizer) – clindamycin
- clindamycin – *Cleocin* (Pfizer), others
- Coartem* (Novartis) – artemether/lumefantrine
- crotamiton – *Eurax* (Westwood-Squibb)
- dapsone – (Jacobus)
- § *Daraprim* (GlaxoSmithKline) – pyrimethamine USP
- † diethylcarbamazine citrate (DEC) – *Hetrazan*
- *Diflucan* (Pfizer) – fluconazole
- § diloxanide furoate – *Furamide* (Boots, United Kingdom)
- doxycycline – *Vibramycin* (Pfizer), others
- eflornithine (Difluoromethylornithine, DFMO) – *Ornidyl* (Aventis)
- § *Egaten* (Novartis) – triclabendazole
- Elimite* (Allergan) – permethrin
- Ergamisol* (Janssen) – levamisole
- Eurax* (Westwood-Squibb) – crotamiton
- *Flagyl* (Pfizer) – metronidazole
- † *Lampit* (Bayer, Germany) – nifurtimox
- Lariam* (Roche) – mefloquine
- § *Leshcutan* (Teva, Israel) – topical paromomycin
- levamisole – *Ergamisol* (Janssen)
- lumefantrine/artemether – *Coartem*, *Riamet* (Novartis)
- Malarone* (GlaxoSmithKline) – atovaquone/proguanil
- malathion – *Ovide* (Medicis)
- mebendazole – *Vermox* (McNeil), others
- mefloquine – *Lariam* (Roche)
- § meglumine antimonate – *Glucantime* (Aventis, France)
- † melarsoprol – *Mel-B*
- † *Mel-B* – melarsoprol
- Mepron* (GlaxoSmithKline) – atovaquone
- metronidazole – *Flagyl* (Pfizer), others
- § miconazole – *Monistat i.v.*
- § miltefosine – *Impavido* (Zentaris, Germany)
- § *Monistat i.v.* – miconazole
- NebuPent* (Fujisawa) – pentamidine isethionate
- § niclosamide – *Yomesan* (Bayer, Germany)
- † nifurtimox – *Lampit* (Bayer, Germany)
- nitazoxanide – *Alinia* (Romark)
- Nix* (GlaxoSmithKline) – permethrin
- *Nizoral* (Janssen) – ketoconazole
- § ornidazole – *Tiberal* (Roche, France)
- Ornidyl* (Aventis) – eflornithine (Difluoromethylornithine, DFMO)
- Ovide* (Medicis) – malathion
- § oxamniquine – *Vansil* (Pfizer)
- § *Paludrine* (AstraZeneca, United Kingdom) – proguanil
- paromomycin – *Humatin* (Monarch); *Leshcutan* (Teva, Israel; topical formulation not available in US)
- Pentam 300* (Fujisawa) – pentamidine isethionate
- pentamidine isethionate – *Pentam 300* (Fujisawa), *NebuPent* (Fujisawa)
- † *Pentostam* (GlaxoSmithKline, United Kingdom) – sodium stibogluconate
- permethrin – *Nix* (GlaxoSmithKline), *Elimite* (Allergan)
- § praziquantel – *Biltricide* (Bayer)
- primaquine phosphate USP
- § proguanil – *Paludrine* (AstraZeneca, United Kingdom)
- proguanil/atovaquone – *Malarone* (GlaxoSmithKline)
- § propamidine isethionate – *Brolene* (Aventis, Canada)

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * spiramycin – <i>Rovamycine</i> (Aventis) • <i>Sporanox</i> (Janssen-Ortho) – itraconazole <i>Stromectol</i> (Merck) – ivermectin sulfadiazine – (Eon) † suramin sodium – <i>Germanin</i> (Bayer, Germany) § <i>Tiberal</i> (Roche, France) – ornidazole <i>Tindamax</i> (Mission) – tinidazole tinidazole – <i>Tindamax</i> (Mission) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TMP/Sulfa – <i>Bactrim</i> (Roche), others § triclabendazole – <i>Egaten</i> (Novartis) § <i>Vansil</i> (Pfizer) – oxamniquine • <i>Vermox</i> (McNeil) – mebendazole • <i>Vibramycin</i> (Pfizer) – doxycycline • <i>Yodoxin</i> (Glenwood) – iodoquinol § <i>Yomesan</i> (Bayer, Germany) – niclosamide • <i>Zithromax</i> (Pfizer) – azithromycin |
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* Available in the US only from the manufacturer.

§ Not available commercially. It may be obtained through compounding pharmacies such as Panorama Compounding Pharmacy, 6744 Balboa Blvd, Van Nuys, CA 91406 (800-247-9767) or Medical Center Pharmacy, New Haven, CT (203-688-6816). Other compounding pharmacies may be found through the National Association of Compounding Pharmacies (800-687-7850) or the Professional Compounding Centers of America (800-331-2498, www.pccarx.com).

† Available from the CDC Drug Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia 30333; 404-639-3670 (evenings, weekends, or holidays: 770-488-7100).

- Also available generically.

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