


# ROXITHROMYCIN

Antibiotic, macrolide

Availability <sup>1</sup>	Brand name	Quick guide
Tablet, film-coated 150 mg, 300 mg	Biaxig, Roxar, Roximycin, Rulide Generics are available	
<b>Effect of food</b>	Food reduces absorption. Give on an empty stomach at least 15 minutes before food. <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Absorption</b>	Bioavailability of the crushed tablet is greater than the whole tablet. The risk of adverse effects may be increased. <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Warnings</b>	Wear a mask and gloves if crushing the tablet. Antibiotics can be irritant and may cause sensitisation.	

## What to do for people with enteral feeding tubes

- Option 1** Disperse the tablet in 10–20 mL of water in an enteral syringe. The tablet will disperse in 1 to 5 minutes. The dispersion may settle quickly, shake well immediately before giving the dose.<sup>3</sup> May not be suitable for fine-bore tubes. See Method A for instructions.
- Option 2** If there are no other options, crush the tablet and mix with water, then draw into an enteral syringe. See Method B for instructions. See *Absorption* and *Warnings*.

## What to do for people with swallowing difficulties

- Option 1** Disperse the tablet in water.<sup>1</sup> The tablet will disperse in 1 to 5 minutes.<sup>3</sup> See Method D for instructions.
- Option 2** If the person cannot swallow thin fluids, crush the tablet and mix with a spoonful of yoghurt or apple puree. See Method E for instructions. See *Absorption* and *Warnings*.

## REFERENCES:

1. Product information. Available from [www.tga.gov.au](http://www.tga.gov.au). Accessed 17/10/2022
2. Britzi M, Berkovitch M, Soback S, Leibovitz A, Segal R, Smagarinsky M, et al. Roxithromycin pharmacokinetics in hospitalized geriatric patients: oral administration of whole versus crushed tablets. *Ther Drug Monit* 2015; 37: 512-5.
3. SHPA. Drug dispersion database; 2013, 2015.