

AFORVIR TABLET

BRAND NAME	AFORVIR TAB
GENERIC NAME	Cetirizine
AVAILABILITY	Tablet 10mg 100's
THERAPEUTIC CLASS	Antihistamine
MODE OF ACTION	Cetirizine is a fast-acting, highly selective antagonist of the peripheral histamine H1-receptor. The H1-receptors inhibited by cetirizine are primarily on respiratory smooth muscle cells, vascular endothelial cells, immune cells, and the gastrointestinal tract. Unlike first-generation antihistamines such as diphenhydramine and doxylamine, cetirizine does not cross the blood-brain barrier to a large extent, avoiding the neurons of the central nervous system. As a result, cetirizine produces minimal sedation compared to many of the first-generation antihistamines. Given its antagonism of histamine H1-receptors, cetirizine effectively reverses many of the effects of histamine. Like other second-generation antihistamines, cetirizine decreases vascular permeability, decreasing the amount of fluid escaping to tissues from capillaries. Cetirizine is also an inhibitor of histamine-induced bronchospasm Cetirizine has been found to exert significant anti-inflammatory activity, reducing the infiltration of inflammatory cells in the setting of allergic rhinitis.[7] Specifically, research has found that cetirizine minimizes the migration of neutrophils and eosinophils.
INDICATION	Symptomatic relief of allergy eg, hay fever & urticaria.
DOSAGE	Dosage / Direction for Use Adult & childn ≥6 yr 10 mg/day or 5 mg bid. Renal impairment ½ usual dose.
CONTRAINDICATION	Cetirizine is contraindicated in anyone with a known hypersensitivity to it or any of its ingredients. Cetirizine is also contraindicated in anyone with a known hypersensitivity to hydroxyzine, as cetirizine is a metabolite of hydroxyzine.



	Patients should not use cetirizine concurrently with alcohol or other central nervous system depressants as it may cause dose-related sedation.[19]
	There are few well-controlled human studies on cetirizine in pregnant mothers, although these showed it to be safe during pregnancy in animal studies. Cetirizine should be used in pregnancy only when necessary. First-generation antihistamines, such as diphenhydramine and doxylamine, are safest to use during pregnancy.[14] However, first- generation antihistamines are more likely than second-generation antihistamines to cause somnolence; as such, patients should understand the potential adverse effects of whatever medication they choose to take in pregnancy.
	Cetirizine is not recommended for nursing mothers as it gets excreted in breast milk.
SPECIAL PRECAUTION	May impair ability to drive or operate machinery.
DRUG INTERACTION	
PRICE	P2,366.50
FDA REGISTRATION	Rx