SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS (SmPC) TEMPLATE

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

DAMOXEN 500 mg capsule

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Amoxicillin trihydrate equivalent to 500mg Amoxycillin per capsule.

For a full list of excipients, see section 6.1..

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

White to off-white granular powder filled in hard gelatine capsule shells size '0'. Scarlet and Puff colored Capsules printed DAMOXEN on the Cap and 500MG on the body

4. Clinical particulars

4.1 Therapeutic indications

DAMOXEN (Amoxicillin Trihydrate) is indicated for the treatment of the following infections in adults and children (see sections 4.2, 4.4 and 5.1):

- Acute bacterial sinusitis
- Acute otitis media
- Acute streptococcal tonsillitis and pharyngitis
- Acute exacerbations of chronic bronchitis
- Community acquired pneumonia
- Acute cystitis
- Asymptomatic bacteriuria in pregnancy
- Acute pyelonephritis
- Typhoid and paratyphoid fever
- Dental abscess with spreading cellulitis
- Prosthetic joint infections
- Helicobacter pylori eradication
- Lyme disease

Amoxicillin is also indicated for the prophylaxis of endocarditis.
Consideration should be given to official guidance on the appropriate use of antibacterial agents.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology
The dose of Amoxicillin that is selected to treat an individual infection should take into account:

- The expected pathogens and their likely susceptibility to antibacterial agents (see section 4.4)
- The severity and the site of the infection
- The age, weight, and renal function of the patient; as shown below

The duration of therapy should be determined by the type of infection and the response of the patient and should generally be as short as possible. Some infections require longer periods of treatment (see section 4.4 regarding prolonged therapy).

Adults and children ≥40 kg

Indication	Dose
Acute bacterial sinusitis	250 mg to 500 mg every 8 hours or 750 mg to 1 g every 12 hours

Asymptomatic bacteriuria in pregnancy:	250 mg to 500 mg every 8 hours or 750 mg to 1 g every 12 hours
Acute pyelonephritis	250 mg to 500 mg every 8 hours or 750 mg to 1 g every 12 hours
Dental abscess with spreading cellulitis	For severe infections 750 mg to 1 g every 8 hours
Acute cystitis	Acute cystitis may be treated with 3 g twice daily for one day
Acute otitis media	500 mg every 8 hours, 750 mg to 1 g every 12 hours
Acute streptococcal tonsillitis and pharyngitis	500 mg every 8 hours, 750 mg to 1 g every 12 hours
Acute exacerbations of chronic bronchitis	For severe infections 750 mg to 1 g every 8 hours for 10 days
Community acquired pneumonia	500 mg to 1 g every 8 hours
Typhoid and paratyphoid fever	500 mg to 2 g every 8 hours
Prosthetic joint infections	500 mg to 1 g every 8 hours
Prophylaxis of endocarditis	2 g orally, single dose 30 to 60 minutes before procedure
Helicobacter pylori eradication	750 mg to 1 g twice daily in combination with a proton pump inhibitor (e.g. omeprazole, lansoprazole) and another antibiotic (e.g. clarithromycin, metronidazole) for 7 days
Lyme disease: Early stage	500 mg to 1 g every 8 hours up to a maximum of 4 g/day in divided doses for 14 days (10 to 21 days) Late stage (systemic involvement): 500 mg to 2 g every 8 hours up to a maximum of 6 g/day in divided doses for 10 to 30 days

Children <40 kg

Children may be treated with amoxicillin capsules, dispersible tablets, suspensions or sachets.

Amoxicillin suspension is recommended for children under six months of age.

Children weighing 40 kg or more should be prescribed the adult dosage

Recommended doses:

Indication	Dose
Acute bacterial sinusitis	20 to 90 mg/kg/day in divided doses*
Acute otitis media	
Community acquired pneumonia	
Acute cystitis	
Acute pyelonephritis	
Dental abscess with spreading cellulitis	
Acute streptococcal tonsillitis and pharyngitis	40 to 90 mg/kg/day in divided doses*
Typhoid and paratyphoid fever	100 mg/kg/day in three divided doses
Prophylaxis of endocarditis	50 mg/kg orally, single dose 30 to 60 minutes before procedure
Lyme disease: Early stage	Early stage: 25 to 50 mg/kg/day in three divided doses for 10 to 21 days Late stage (systemic involvement): 100 mg/kg/day in three divided doses for 10 to 30 days
+ Consideration should be given to the official treatment guidelines for each indication. *Twice daily dosing regimens should only be considered when the dose is in the upper range.	

Elderly

No dose adjustment is considered necessary.

Renal impairment

GFR (ml/min)	Adults and children ≥ 40 kg	Children < 40 kg#
greater than 30	no adjustment necessary	no adjustment necessary
10 to 30	maximum 500 mg twice daily	15 mg/kg given twice daily (maximum 500 mg twice daily)
less than 10	maximum 500 mg/day.	15 mg/kg given as a single daily dose (maximum 500 mg)
#In the majority of cases, parenteral therapy is preferred.		

In patients receiving haemodialysis

Amoxicillin may be removed from the circulation by haemodialysis.

	Haemodialysis
Adults and children ≥ 40 kg	15 mg/kg/day given as a single daily dose. Prior to haemodialysis one additional dose of 15 mg/kg should be administered. In order to restore circulating drug levels, another dose of 15 mg/kg should be administered after haemodialysis.
Children under 40 kg	15 mg/kg/day given as a single daily dose (maximum 500 mg). Prior to haemodialysis one additional dose of 15 mg/kg should be administered. In order to restore circulating drug levels, another dose of 15 mg/kg should be administered after haemodialysis.

In patients receiving peritoneal dialysis
Amoxicillin maximum 500 mg/day.

Hepatic impairment
Dose with caution and monitor hepatic function at regular intervals. (see sections 4.4 and 4.8).

Method of administration
Damoxen (Amoxicillin Trihydrate) is for oral use.
Absorption of amoxicillin is unimpaired by food.

4.3 Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to the active substance, to any of the penicillins or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

History of a severe immediate hypersensitivity reaction (e.g. anaphylaxis) to another beta-lactam agent (e.g. a cephalosporin, carbapenem or monobactam).

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Hypersensitivity reactions

Before initiating therapy with amoxicillin, careful enquiry should be made concerning previous hypersensitivity reactions to penicillins, cephalosporins or other beta-lactam agents (see sections 4.3 and 4.8).

Serious and occasionally fatal hypersensitivity reactions (including anaphylactoid and severe cutaneous adverse reactions) have been reported in patients on penicillin therapy. These reactions are more likely to occur in individuals with a history of penicillin hypersensitivity and in atopic individuals. If an allergic reaction occurs, amoxicillin therapy must be discontinued and appropriate alternative therapy instituted.

Non-susceptible microorganisms

Amoxicillin is not suitable for the treatment of some types of infection unless the pathogen is already documented and known to be susceptible or there is a very high likelihood that the pathogen would be suitable for treatment with amoxicillin (see section 5.1). This particularly applies when considering the treatment of patients with urinary tract infections and severe infections of the ear, nose and throat.

Convulsions

Convulsions may occur in patients with impaired renal function or in those receiving high doses or in patients with predisposing factors (e.g. history of seizures, treated epilepsy or meningeal disorders (see section 4.8).

Renal impairment

In patients with renal impairment, the dose should be adjusted according to the degree of impairment (see section 4.2).

Skin reactions

The occurrence at the treatment initiation of a feverish generalized erythema associated with pustula may be a symptom of acute generalized exanthemous pustulosis (AEGP, see section 4.8). This reaction requires amoxicillin discontinuation and contra-indicates any subsequent administration.

Amoxicillin should be avoided if infectious mononucleosis is suspected since the occurrence of a morbilliform rash has been associated with this condition following the use of amoxicillin.

Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction

The Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction has been seen following amoxicillin treatment of Lyme disease (see section 4.8). It results directly from the bactericidal activity of amoxicillin on the causative bacteria of Lyme disease, the spirochaete Borrelia burgdorferi. Patients should be reassured that this is a common and usually self-limiting consequence of antibiotic treatment of Lyme disease.

Overgrowth of non-susceptible microorganisms

Prolonged use may occasionally result in overgrowth of non-susceptible organisms. Antibiotic-associated colitis has been reported with nearly all antibacterial agents and may range in severity from mild to life threatening (see section 4.8). Therefore, it is important to consider this diagnosis in patients who present with diarrhoea during, or subsequent to, the administration of any antibiotics. Should antibiotic-associated colitis occur, amoxicillin should immediately be discontinued, a physician consulted and an appropriate therapy initiated. Anti-peristaltic medicinal products are contra-indicated in this situation.

Prolonged therapy

Periodic assessment of organ system functions; including renal, hepatic and haematopoietic function is advisable during prolonged therapy. Elevated liver enzymes and changes in blood counts have been reported (see section 4.8).

Anticoagulants

Prolongation of prothrombin time has been reported rarely in patients receiving amoxicillin. Appropriate monitoring should be undertaken when anticoagulants are prescribed concomitantly. Adjustments in the dose of oral anticoagulants may be necessary to maintain the desired level of anticoagulation (see section 4.5 and 4.8).

Crystalluria

In patients with reduced urine output, crystalluria has been observed very rarely, predominantly with parenteral therapy. During the administration of high doses of amoxicillin, it is advisable to maintain adequate fluid intake and urinary output in order to reduce the possibility of amoxicillin crystalluria. In patients with bladder catheters, a regular check of patency should be maintained (see section 4.8 and 4.9).

Interference with diagnostic tests

Elevated serum and urinary levels of amoxicillin are likely to affect certain laboratory tests. Due to the high urinary concentrations of amoxicillin, false positive readings are common with chemical methods.

It is recommended that when testing for the presence of glucose in urine during amoxicillin treatment, enzymatic glucose oxidase methods should be used.

The presence of amoxicillin may distort assay results for oestriol in pregnant women.

Important information about excipients

This medicinal product contains aspartame (E951), a source of phenylalanine. This medicine should be used with caution in patients with phenylketonuria.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Probenecid

Concomitant use of probenecid is not recommended. Probenecid decreases the renal tubular secretion of amoxicillin. Concomitant use of probenecid may result in increased and prolonged blood levels of amoxicillin.

Allopurinol

Concurrent administration of allopurinol during treatment with amoxicillin can increase the likelihood of allergic skin reactions.

Tetracyclines

Tetracyclines and other bacteriostatic drugs may interfere with the bactericidal effects of amoxicillin.

Oral anticoagulants

Oral anticoagulants and penicillin antibiotics have been widely used in practice without reports of interaction. However, in the literature there are cases of increased international normalised ratio in patients maintained on acenocoumarol or warfarin and prescribed a course of amoxicillin. If co-administration is necessary, the prothrombin time or international normalised ratio should be carefully monitored with the addition or withdrawal of amoxicillin. Moreover, adjustments in the dose of oral anticoagulants may be necessary (see sections 4.4 and 4.8).

Methotrexate

Penicillins may reduce the excretion of methotrexate causing a potential increase in toxicity.

4.6 Fertility, Pregnancy and Lactation

Pregnancy

Animal studies do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to reproductive toxicity. Limited data on the use of amoxicillin during pregnancy in humans do not indicate an increased risk of congenital malformations. Amoxicillin may be used in pregnancy when the potential benefits outweigh the potential risks associated with treatment.

Breastfeeding

Amoxicillin is excreted into breast milk in small quantities with the possible risk of sensitisation. Consequently, diarrhoea and fungus infection of the mucous membranes are possible in the breast-fed infant, so that breast-feeding might have to be discontinued. Amoxicillin should only be used during breast-feeding after benefit/risk assessment by the physician in charge.

Fertility

There are no data on the effects of amoxicillin on fertility in humans. Reproductive studies in animals have shown no effects on fertility.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed. However, undesirable effects may occur (e.g. allergic reactions, dizziness, convulsions), which may influence the ability to drive and use machines (see section 4.8).

4.8 Undesirable effects

The most commonly reported adverse drug reactions (ADRs) are diarrhoea, nausea and skin rash.

The ADRs derived from clinical studies and post- marketing surveillance with amoxicillin, presented by MedDRA System Organ Class are listed below.

The following terminologies have been used in order to classify the occurrence of undesirable effects.
Very common (≥1/10)
Common (≥1/100 to <1/10)
Uncommon (≥1/1,000 to <1/100)
Rare (≥1/10,000 to <1/1,000)
Very rare (<1/10,000)

Not known (cannot be estimated from the available data)

Infections and infestations	
Very rare	Mucocutaneous candidiasis
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	

Very rare	Reversible leucopenia (including severe neutropenia or agranulocytosis), reversible thrombocytopenia and haemolytic anaemia. Prolongation of bleeding time and prothrombin time (see section 4.4).
Immune system disorders	
Very rare	Severe allergic reactions, including angioneurotic oedema, anaphylaxis, serum sickness and hypersensitivity vasculitis (see section 4.4).
Not known	Jarisch-Herxheimer reaction (see section 4.4).
Nervous system disorders	
Very rare	Hyperkinesia, dizziness and convulsions (see section 4.4).
Gastrointestinal disorders	
Clinical Trial Data	
*Common	Diarrhoea and nausea
*Uncommon	Vomiting
Post-marketing Data	
Very rare	Antibiotic associated colitis (including pseudomembraneous colitis and haemorrhagic colitis see section 4.4). Black hairy tongue Superficial tooth discolouration#
Hepatobiliary disorders	
Very rare	Hepatitis and cholestatic jaundice. A moderate rise in AST and/or ALT.
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	
Clinical Trial Data	
*Common	Skin rash
*Uncommon	Urticaria and pruritus
Post-marketing Data	
Very rare	Skin reactions such as erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis, bullous and exfoliative dermatitis , acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP) (see section 4.4) and drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS).
Renal and urinary tract disorders	
Very rare:	Interstitial nephritis Crystalluria (see sections 4.4 and 4.9 Overdose)
*The incidence of these AEs was derived from clinical studies involving a total of approximately 6,000 adult and paediatric patients taking amoxicillin. #Superficial tooth discolouration has been reported in children. Good oral hygiene may help to prevent tooth discolouration as it can usually be removed by brushing.	

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the national reporting system (see below).

Nigeria
https://www.nafdac.gov.ng/our-services/pharmacovigilance-post-market-surveillance/report-adverse-drug-reaction/

4.9 Overdose

Symptoms and signs of overdose

Gastrointestinal symptoms (such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea) and disturbance of the fluid and electrolyte balances may be evident. Amoxicillin crystalluria, in some cases leading to renal failure, has been observed. Convulsions may occur in patients with impaired renal function or in those receiving high doses (see sections 4.4 and 4.8).

Treatment of intoxication

Gastrointestinal symptoms may be treated symptomatically, with attention to the water/electrolyte balance. Amoxicillin can be removed from the circulation by haemodialysis.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamics properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: penicillins with extended spectrum; ATC-Code: J01CA04.

Mechanism of action

Amoxicillin is a semisynthetic penicillin (beta-lactam antibiotic) that inhibits one or more enzymes (often referred to as penicillin-binding proteins, PBPs) in the biosynthetic pathway of bacterial peptidoglycan, which is an integral structural component of the bacterial cell wall. Inhibition of peptidoglycan synthesis leads to weakening of the cell wall, which is usually followed by cell lysis and death.

Amoxicillin is susceptible to degradation by beta-lactamases produced by resistant bacteria and therefore the spectrum of activity of amoxicillin alone does not include organisms which produce these enzymes.

Pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic relationship

The time above the minimum inhibitory concentration (T>MIC) is considered to be the major determinant of efficacy for amoxicillin.

Mechanisms of resistance

The main mechanisms of resistance to amoxicillin are:

• Inactivation by bacterial beta-lactamases.

• Alteration of PBPs, which reduce the affinity of the antibacterial agent for the target.

Impermeability of bacteria or efflux pump mechanisms may cause or contribute to bacterial resistance, particularly in Gram-negative bacteria.

Breakpoints

MIC breakpoints for amoxicillin are those of the European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) version 5.0.

Organism	MIC breakpoint (mg/L)	
	Susceptible ≤	Resistant >
Enterobacteriaceae	8[1]	8
Staphylococcus spp.	Note[2]	Note[2]
Enterococcus spp.[3]	4	8
Streptococcus groups A, B, C and G	Note[4]	Note[2]
Streptococcus pneumoniae	Note[5]	Note[5]
Viridans group steprococci	0.5	2
Haemophilus influenzae	2[6]	2[6]
Moraxella catarrhalis	Note[7]	Note[7]
Neisseria meningitidis	0.125	1
Gram positive anaerobes except Clostridium difficile[8]	4	8
Gram negative anaerobes[8]	0.5	2
Helicobacter pylori	0.125[9]	0.125[9]
Pasteurella multocida	1	1
Non- species related breakpoints[10]	2	8

[1]Wild type Enterobacteriaceae are categorised as susceptible to aminopenicillins. Some countries prefer to categorise wild type isolates of E. coli and P. mirabilis as intermediate. When this is the case, use the MIC breakpoint S ≤ 0.5 mg/L

[2]Most staphylococci are penicillinase producers, which are resistant to amoxicillin. Methicillin resistant isolates are, with few exceptions, resistant to all beta-lactam agents.

[3]Susceptibility to amoxicillin can be inferred from ampicillin

[4]The susceptibility of streptococcus groups A, B, C and G to penicillins is inferred from the benzylpenicillin susceptibility.

[5]Breakpoints relate only to non-meningitis isolates. For isolates categorised as intermediate to ampicillin avoid oral treatment with amoxicillin. Susceptibility inferred from the MIC of ampicillin.

[6]Breakpoints are based on intravenous administration. Beta-lactamase positive isolates should be reported resistant.

[7]Beta lactamase producers should be reported resistant

[8]Susceptibility to amoxicillin can be inferred from benzylpenicillin.

[9]The breakpoints are based on epidemiological cut-off values (ECOFFs), which distinguish wild-type isolates from those with reduced susceptibility.

[10]The non-species related breakpoints are based on doses of at least 0.5 g x 3or 4 doses daily (1.5 to 2 g/day).

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Absorption

Amoxicillin fully dissociates in aqueous solution at physiological pH. It is rapidly and well absorbed by the oral route of administration. Following oral administration, amoxicillin is approximately 70% bioavailable. The time to peak plasma concentration (Tmax) is approximately one hour.

The pharmacokinetic results for a study, in which an amoxicillin dose of 250 mg three times daily was administered in the fasting state to groups of healthy volunteers are presented below.

C_{max}	T_{max}*	AUC $_{(0-24h)}$	T ½
(µg/ml)	(H)	(µg.h/ml)	(H)
3.3 ± 1.12	1.5 (1.0-2.0)	26.7 ± 4.56	1.36 ± 0.56
*Median (range)			

the range 250 to 3000 mg the bioavailability is linear in proportion to dose (measured as C_{max} and AUC). The absorption is not influenced by simultaneous food intake.

Haemodialysis can be used for elimination of amoxicillin.

Distribution

About 18% of total plasma amoxicillin is bound to protein and the apparent volume of distribution is around 0.3 to 0.4 l/kg.

Following intravenous administration, amoxicillin has been found in gall bladder, abdominal tissue, skin, fat, muscle tissues, synovial and peritoneal fluids, bile and pus. Amoxicillin does not adequately distribute into the cerebrospinal fluid.

From animal studies there is no evidence for significant tissue retention of drug-derived material. Amoxicillin, like most penicillins, can be detected in breast milk (see section 4.6). Amoxicillin has been shown to cross the placental barrier (see section 4.6).

Biotransformation

Amoxicillin is partly excreted in the urine as the inactive penicilloic acid in quantities equivalent to up to 10 to 25% of the initial dose.

Elimination

The major route of elimination for amoxicillin is via the kidney.

Amoxicillin has a mean elimination half-life of approximately one hour and a mean total clearance of approximately 25 l/hour in healthy subjects. Approximately 60 to 70% of the amoxicillin is excreted unchanged in urine during the first 6 hours after administration of a single 250 mg or 500 mg dose of amoxicillin. Various studies have found the urinary excretion to be 50-85% for amoxicillin over a 24 hour period.

Concomitant use of probenecid delays amoxicillin excretion (see section 4.5).

Age

The elimination half-life of amoxicillin is similar for children aged around 3 months to 2 years and older children and adults. For very young children (including preterm newborns) in the first week of life the interval of administration should not exceed twice daily administration due to immaturity of the renal pathway of elimination. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection, and it may be useful to monitor renal function.

Gender

Following oral administration of amoxicillin/ to healthy males and female subjects, gender has no significant impact on the pharmacokinetics of amoxicillin.

Renal impairment

The total serum clearance of amoxicillin decreases proportionately with decreasing renal function (see sections 4.2 and 4.4).

Hepatic impairment

Hepatically impaired patients should be dosed with caution and hepatic function monitored at regular intervals.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

Non-clinical data reveal no special hazard for humans based on studies of safety pharmacology, repeated dose toxicity, genotoxicity and toxicity to reproduction and development.

Carcinogenicity studies have not been conducted with amoxicillin.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Corn Starch

Magnesium Stearate

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

6.3 Shelf life

36 months .

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store in cool dry place, away from sunlight and humidity. Store in original packaging materials.

6.5 Nature and contents of container <and special equipment for use, administration or implantation>

Alu foil/PVC blister, package in folding box with patient information leaflet. Each folding box contains a blister of 10 capsules.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling

Dispose all medicinal products in line with the prescribe local regulations.

7. <APPLICANT/MANUFACTURER>

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