

[Home](#)2. [Gatifloxacin](#)

Gatifloxacin ophthalmic

Generic name: gatifloxacin ophthalmic [*GAT-i-FLOX-a-sin-off-THAL-mik*]**Brand names:** [Zymar](#), [Zymaxid](#)**Dosage form:** ophthalmic solution (0.5%)**Drug class:** [Ophthalmic anti-infectives](#)[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Apr 4, 2025. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#)

What is gatifloxacin ophthalmic?

Gatifloxacin is a fluoroquinolone [antibiotic](#) that fights bacteria.

Gatifloxacin ophthalmic (for the eyes) is used to treat eye infections caused by bacteria.

Gatifloxacin ophthalmic may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

Gatifloxacin ophthalmic side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction**: hives; difficulty breathing; [slow heart rate](#), weak pulse, [fainting](#); swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Gatifloxacin ophthalmic may cause serious side effects. Call your doctor at once if you have:

- eye swelling, severe discomfort, crusting or drainage (may be signs of a new [infection](#)); or
- any new or worsening eye problems.

Common side effects of gatifloxacin ophthalmic may include:

- mild [itching](#), burning, redness, or irritation;
- watery eyes; or
- puffy eyelids.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

[Gatifloxacin ophthalmic side effects](#) (more detail)

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Warnings

Follow all directions on your medicine label and package. Tell each of your healthcare providers about all your medical conditions, allergies, and all medicines you use.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use gatifloxacin ophthalmic if you allergic to gatifloxacin or similar medicines, such as [ciprofloxacin](#), [levofloxacin](#), [lomefloxacin](#), [moxifloxacin](#), [norfloxacin](#), and others.

Before you use gatifloxacin ophthalmic, tell your doctor about all your medical conditions or allergies.

It is not known whether this medicine will harm an unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.

It is not known whether gatifloxacin ophthalmic passes into breast milk or if it could harm a nursing baby. Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding a baby.

Gatifloxacin ophthalmic is not approved for use by anyone younger than 1 year old.

How should I use gatifloxacin ophthalmic?

Follow all directions on your prescription label. Do not use this medicine in larger or smaller amounts or for longer than recommended.

You may need to use the eye drops every 2 hours for the first couple of days, and then every 4 hours for the rest of your treatment. Follow your doctor's instructions.

Wash your hands before using the eye drops.

To apply the **eye drops**:

- Tilt your head back slightly and pull down your lower eyelid to create a small pocket. Hold the dropper above the eye with the tip down. Look up and away from the dropper and squeeze out a drop.
- Close your eyes for 2 or 3 minutes with your head tipped down, without blinking or squinting. Gently press your finger to the inside corner of the eye for about 1 minute, to keep the liquid from draining into your tear duct.
- Use only the number of drops your doctor has prescribed.

Do not touch the tip of the eye dropper or place it directly on your eye. A contaminated dropper can infect your eye, which could lead to serious vision problems.

Do not use the eye drops if the liquid has changed colors or has particles in it. Call your pharmacist for new medicine.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat. Do not freeze. Keep the bottle tightly closed when not in use.

Gatifloxacin ophthalmic dosing information

Usual Adult Dose for Bacterial Conjunctivitis:

0.3% solution:

-Days 1 and 2: Instill 1 drop in the affected eye(s) every 2 hours while awake, up to 8 times a day.

-Days 3 through 7: Instill 1 drop in the affected eye(s) up to 4 times a day while awake.

0.5% solution:

-Day 1: Instill 1 drop in the affected eye(s) every 2 hours while awake, up to 8 times a day.

-Days 2 through 7: Instill 1 drop in the affected eye(s) 2 to 4 times a day while awake.

Use: For the treatment of [bacterial conjunctivitis](#) due to susceptible strains of *Staphylococcus aureus*, *S epidermidis*,

Streptococcus mitis group, S pneumoniae, Haemophilus influenzae, Corynebacterium propinquum, S oralis

Usual Pediatric Dose for Bacterial Conjunctivitis:

1 year or older:

0.3% solution:

-Days 1 and 2: Instill 1 drop in the affected eye(s) every 2 hours while awake, up to 8 times a day.

-Days 3 through 7: Instill 1 drop in the affected eye(s) up to 4 times a day while awake.

0.5% solution:

-Day 1: Instill 1 drop in the affected eye(s) every 2 hours while awake, up to 8 times a day.

-Days 2 through 7: Instill 1 drop in the affected eye(s) 2 to 4 times a day while awake.

Use: For the treatment of bacterial [conjunctivitis](#) due to susceptible strains of S aureus, S epidermidis, S mitis group, S pneumoniae, H influenzae, C propinquum, S oralis

 [Detailed Gatifloxacin ophthalmic dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Use the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next scheduled dose.

Do not use extra medicine to make up the missed dose.

What happens if I overdose?

An overdose of gatifloxacin ophthalmic is not expected to be dangerous. Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222 if anyone has accidentally swallowed the medication.

What should I avoid while using gatifloxacin ophthalmic?

You should not wear contact lenses while you still have active symptoms of an eye infection.

Do not use other eye medications during treatment with gatifloxacin ophthalmic unless your doctor tells you to.

What other drugs will affect gatifloxacin ophthalmic?

It is not likely that other drugs you take orally or inject will have an effect on gatifloxacin used in the eyes. But many drugs can interact with each other. Tell each of your healthcare providers about all medicines you use, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#).

Does gatifloxacin ophthalmic interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

gatifloxacin ophthalmic

+

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[Zymar](#), [Zymaxid](#)

Professional resources

- [Gatifloxacin \(EENT\) monograph](#)
- [Gatifloxacin Eye Drops \(FDA\)](#)

Other brands

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Related treatment guides

- [Conjunctivitis, Bacterial](#)
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Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

Antibiotics 101

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DRUG STATUS

Availability

Rx Prescription only

Pregnancy & Lactation


 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*

N/A Not a controlled drug



Approval History

 Drug history at FDA



User Reviews & Ratings

7.6 / 10

[8 Reviews](#)

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