

Clindamycin rINN /klɪndəˈmaɪsɪn/ is an antibiotic of the lincosamide class, which blocks the ribosomes of microorganisms. It is usually used to treat infections with anaerobic bacteria, but can also be used to treat protozoal diseases, such as malaria. It is a common topical treatment for acne and can be useful against some methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) infections.

The most severe common adverse effect of clindamycin is *Clostridium difficile*-associated diarrhea (the most frequent cause of pseudomembranous colitis). Although this side effect occurs with almost all antibiotics, including beta-lactam antibiotics, it is classically linked to clindamycin use.

Clindamycin is marketed as generic and under trade names including Cleocin HCl- (Pfizer), Dalacin, Lincocin (Bangladesh), and Dalacin, Clindacin. Combination products include Duac, BenzaClin, Clindoxyl and Acanya (in combination with benzoyl peroxide), and Ziana (with tretinoin). It is on the World Health Organization's List of Essential Medicines, a list of the most important medication needed in a basic health system.

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