



## Preferred Drug List

### NEW DRUG REVIEW

**Proprietary Name:** Qualaquin™

**Common Name:** Quinine Sulfate

**PDL Category:** Antimalarial Agents

<u>Comparable Products</u>	<u>Preferred Drug List/ Recommended Drug List Status</u>
Chloroquine Phosphate	Preferred
Hydroxychloroquine	Preferred

#### Summary

**Indications and Usage:** Treatment of uncomplicated Plasmodium falciparum malaria

**Mechanism of Action:** The exact mechanism is not known; suspected to inhibit nucleic acid synthesis, protein synthesis, and glycolysis of Plasmodium falciparum.

**Dosage Forms:** Capsules; 324mg

**Recommended Dosage:** Two capsules (648mg) every eight hours for seven days

**Common Adverse Drug Reactions:** Headache, sweating, dizziness, tinnitus, nausea, blurred vision

**Contraindications:** Patients with a prolonged QT interval, glucose-6-phosphate-dehydrogenase deficiency, myasthenia gravis, or any sensitivity to any component of the product.

**Manufacturer:** Mutual Pharmaceutical Company, Inc.

**Analysis:** Qualaquin™ is the first and only quinine sulfate product to be evaluated and approved by the FDA. Qualaquin™ carries a very specific warning against using this product for the treatment or prevention of nocturnal leg cramps as the risks outweigh the potential benefits. The labeling is also very specific that this drug can only be used as a treatment for uncomplicated malaria and not for prophylaxis. Other medications appear on the PDL that are more cost effective than Qualaquin™ that can be used for both prophylaxis and treatment of malaria. Due to the specific warning against using this product for the off label use for nocturnal leg cramps, use of Qualaquin™ should be controlled by prior authorization to ensure proper use of this medication.

**IME Recommendation:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Preferred Drug	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommended Drug
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Preferred Drug	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Recommended Drug
<input type="checkbox"/> Preferred Drug with Conditions	