

# CIPROFLOXACIN

**Other NAMES:** Cipro®

## WHY is this drug prescribed?

Ciprofloxacin is an antibacterial agent that is used to treat a variety of infections, including Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC).

## HOW should this drug be taken?

This drug is usually used in combination with other agents to treat MAC. The dose of ciprofloxacin is 500 to 750 mg twice daily. If ciprofloxacin is prescribed to treat another infection, the dose may be different. Also, the dose may need to be decreased if you have kidney problems.

Take ciprofloxacin before or after meals with plenty of water, including several additional glasses of water throughout the day. Do not take ciprofloxacin with milk products.

Your dosage is:

250 mg tablet

500 mg tablet

750 mg tablet

\_\_\_tablet(s)(\_\_\_mg)\_\_\_times daily

or

100 mg / mL oral suspension:

\_\_\_mL (\_\_\_mg) \_\_\_times daily

## Shake the bottle before each use

Ciprofloxacin must be taken regularly to be effective and to prevent the development of resistance. Take all of your doses even if you begin to feel better.

## What should you do if you FORGET a dose?

If you miss a dose of ciprofloxacin, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is time for your next dose, do not double the dose, just carry on with your regular schedule.

## What ADVERSE EFFECTS can this drug cause? What should you do about them?

Generally, ciprofloxacin is well tolerated. Less than 5 % of people have **nausea, upset stomach, diarrhea, dizziness, drowsiness, insomnia, lightheadedness, headache, and agitation**. Make sure you know how you react to this drug before you drive a car, operate machines, or do anything that could be dangerous if you are dizzy, drowsy or lightheaded. If these effects occur and are bothersome, please discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

Very rarely, more serious adverse effects may occur. Consult a doctor

immediately if you get any of the following symptoms: itchy skin rash, hives or other skin condition, fever, swelling of the face, lips, mouth, or throat which may cause difficulties swallowing or breathing, yellowing of skin and eyes (jaundice), severe vomiting or abdominal pain, blood in the urine, changes in hearing, vision, or taste, irregular heartbeat, swelling of the hands, feet or ankles, shaking, hallucinations or convulsions.

**It is important that you keep your doctor appointments and come for your laboratory tests so that your progress can be followed.**

## What other PRECAUTIONS should you follow while using this drug?

Before starting ciprofloxacin, please inform your doctor if you have kidney problems or if you have ever developed an allergic reaction with ciprofloxacin.

Ciprofloxacin should NOT be used if you are pregnant, unless your doctor believes the benefits outweigh the risks. Please discuss this with your doctor or pharmacist if this is a concern. Also, you should NOT breastfeed if you are taking ciprofloxacin.

Some people who take ciprofloxacin are more sensitive to sunlight than they are normally. Stay out of direct sunlight if possible. Wear protective clothing, including a hat and sunglasses. Use a protective sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15. Do not use a sunlamp, tanning bed or booth. If you have any questions

about this, talk with your doctor or pharmacist.

Certain drugs can increase or decrease the effect of ciprofloxacin. Also, ciprofloxacin might influence the effect of other drugs you are taking. Inform your doctor and pharmacist of all prescribed and non-prescribed drugs you are taking. As well, you should inform them of natural products you are taking. If you wish to start a new drug or natural product, please consult with your pharmacist before doing so.

Ciprofloxacin may affect the way caffeine is removed from the body. Therefore avoid excessive amounts of coffee, tea and soft drinks, such as colas, while taking ciprofloxacin. Antacids used for upset stomach (Amphogel®, Maalox®), calcium, and iron supplements may affect the way ciprofloxacin is absorbed. If you need to take these drugs, they should be taken at least 2 hours after your dose of ciprofloxacin.

Ciprofloxacin may also affect the way the following drugs work:

- cyclosporine (Neoral®, Sandimmune®)
- glyburide (Diabeta®)
- probenecid (Benuryl™)
- sucralfate (Sulcrate®)
- theophylline (Theo-Dur®, Uniphyll®, Quibron®)
- warfarin (Coumadin®)

Notify your doctor and pharmacist if you are taking one of these drugs.

### **How should this drug be STORED?**

Ciprofloxacin tablets should be stored in a cool (15-30°C) dry place, protected from light. The ciprofloxacin oral suspension should be kept between 5 to 25°C. The suspension is good for 14 days after it is prepared. Ensure that the drug has not expired by checking the expiry date (“EXP”) shown on the outside of the package. Keep all drugs well out of the reach of children.

Do not store in your bathroom. Heat and moisture may cause the drug to be less active.

**If you have any questions or concerns about this drug or if you are experiencing adverse effects, please discuss them with your pharmacist, doctor or nurse.**

**Write questions or concerns down to ensure they are addressed.**

The following pharmacist is available to answer questions:

**Pharmacist:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

Reference: Product Monograph. Cipro® (ciprofloxacin). Toronto, ON, Canada: Bayer Inc., 2008. Prepared by the Ontario HIV Pharmacy Professional Specialty Group, 2003. Reviewed 2009.

Additional medication fact sheets and updates may be found at: [www.hivclinic.ca](http://www.hivclinic.ca)

# ***CIPROFLOXACIN***

## ***MEDICATION***

## ***FACT SHEET***