

Ciprofloxacin Patient Information Leaflet

Why have I been given this leaflet?

You have been given this leaflet because you have been prescribed an antibiotic called **ciprofloxacin**.

Ciprofloxacin is an antibiotic used to treat bacterial infections. Your doctor may decide to give you ciprofloxacin because it will be the most effective antibiotic for the type of bacteria causing your infection, or because of any allergies that you may have to other antibiotics.

How is ciprofloxacin given?

Ciprofloxacin can be given orally or can be given into a vein; via a drip.

Ciprofloxacin is usually given twice each day, once in the morning and once in the evening.

You should avoid milk or other milky products 1-2 hours before taking ciprofloxacin, or for 4 hours after taking ciprofloxacin, as it may interfere with the medicine.

Are there any side effects?

Like all medicines, ciprofloxacin may occasionally cause side effects.

Muscle Pain

Ciprofloxacin has rarely been associated with pain and swelling of the joints. Symptoms could include muscle pain, muscle weakness, joint pain and joint swelling. If you notice any of these symptoms then contact your doctor straight away

Heart Problems

Ciprofloxacin has also been associated with heart problems, including a condition called aortic aneurysm, especially in older patients. If you notice sudden-onset severe stomach, chest, or back pain develops then contact your doctor straight away.



How do we reduce the risks?

If you are at risk of developing these problems we would ideally try to avoid using ciprofloxacin to treat you; however in some serious infections this may not be possible. In this situation your doctor will discuss the risks and benefits of treatment with you.

Your doctor may decide to alter some of your medications whilst you are taking ciprofloxacin.

Is there anything I can do?

It is important that you tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including over the counter medicines (bought from a pharmacy), herbal remedies and inhalers because ciprofloxacin can affect the action of some other medicines and vice-versa.

It is also important that you tell your doctor if you have epilepsy or have had a seizure in the past. Ciprofloxacin can increase your risk of having another seizure.

Steroids, including inhaled steroids (known as a preventer/brown or purple inhalers), can increase the chance of you having side effects whilst on ciprofloxacin. It is important let your doctor or pharmacist know and carry your steroid card at all times.

<p>I am a patient on STEROID TREATMENT WHICH MUST NOT BE STOPPED ABRUPTLY at the end of the course.</p> <p>Full details are available from the Royal Blackburn Hospital or General Practitioner shown below:</p> <p>Patient name: Address: Hospital Number: General Practitioner: Hospital: Royal Blackburn Hospital Consultant:</p> <p>TREATMENT</p> <p>Small Dependent Lateral View</p>	<p>• DO NOT STOP taking the steroid drug except on medical advice.</p> <p>• In case of feverish illness, accident, operation (emergency or otherwise), diarrhoea or vomiting, the steroid treatment MUST continue. Your doctor may wish you to have a LARGER DOSE or INJECTION at such times.</p> <p>• If the tablets cause indigestion, consult your doctor AT ONCE.</p> <p>• Always carry this leaflet while receiving steroid treatment and show it to any doctor, dentist, nurse, midwife, or anyone else who is giving you treatment.</p> <p>• After your treatment has finished you must tell your doctor, dentist, nurse, midwife, or anyone else who is giving you treatment that you have had steroid treatment.</p> <p>• HAVE YOU had Chickenpox? If you have not had chickenpox before, it is important that you avoid contact with others who may have had chickenpox or shingles whilst you are taking these tablets and for THREE months after stopping them.</p> <p>If you think you have been exposed to chickenpox or shingles during this time SEEK URGENT MEDICAL ATTENTION</p>
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Contact

If you have any questions or need further information about your medicine, you can discuss with your ward pharmacist.

Alternatively contact the Medicines Information/Pharmacy department.

Telephone: **01282 803004** or **01254 732253**

(09:00 – 17:00, Monday to Friday)

