



Ciprofloxacin Fact Sheet

What is ciprofloxacin?

Ciprofloxacin is a member of the quinolone antibiotics group which is used to treat a variety of infections. The Center for Disease Control and prevention recommend using Ciprofloxacin as a second line of treatment during mass exposure of *Yersinia pestis* (plague).

How to take cipro?

Adults: Take 500 mg (1 tablet) by mouth twice daily, for a total of 2 tablets/day.

Children: Parents will receive a pediatric dosing table for their children with exact dose measurements and foods they can mix the Ciprofloxacin with at home. Children will receive their dose twice daily by mouth.

It is best to take ciprofloxacin with a full glass of water at least 2 hours after a meal. Drink plenty of fluids while taking Ciprofloxacin. Also if a stomach ache occurs take with food. Do not take dairy products with Ciprofloxacin. If you take vitamins or antacids such as Tums or Maalox, take the antacids 6 hours before or 2 hours after taking Ciprofloxacin.

What to do if you miss a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next scheduled dose. Do not take extra medicine to make up the missed dose.

Side effects of Ciprofloxacin

Common side include: upset stomach, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, dizziness or headache. If you experience any of the symptoms notify your doctor. Less common side effects include: pain in arms or legs, changes in vision, restlessness, ringing in the ears, or mental changes. If any of these less common side effects occur, call your doctor immediately.

*For further information, contact the Oklahoma City-County Health Department
(405) 425-4437*

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Precautions:

Be sure to tell the doctor if you are allergic to any medicine -It is very important to tell your doctor about ALL of the medicine you are currently taking even pills that were bought at the store such as vitamins and antacids. This medication may make you more sensitive to the sun. Avoid prolonged sun exposure, tanning booths, and sunlamps. Use a sunscreen (SPF 30) and wear protective clothing when outdoors. Use caution when driving or operating any type of machinery if this medication makes you sleepy. Tell you doctor if you have ever had a seizure, stroke, problems with your kidneys, joints, tendons, liver or vision problems. Report any previous problems with usual bleeding or bruising. If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, please consult with your doctor while taking this medication. Ciprofloxacin can also cause vaginal itching in women, if this occurs, talk to your doctor. Ciprofloxacin can increase the effects of the following drugs: caffeine and theophylline.

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