

Medication Information Card

Ciprofloxacin

(Sip – ro – flox – a – sin)

Other names for this medication

Cipro[®]

There are many other names for this medication.

How this medication is used

This medication is used to treat infections caused by bacteria.

This medication cannot treat infections caused by viruses or fungi.

How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor. It must be taken regularly, until you have none left, even if you feel well.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about any other medications, natural or herbal products that you take – even the ones you buy without a prescription.

It is best to take this medication on an empty stomach. Take it either 1 hour before or 2 hours after a meal with a full glass of water.

Do not take this medication with milk, yogurt, other dairy products or calcium containing juices.

If you use antacids, minerals or mineral containing vitamins, take ciprofloxacin at least 2 hours before these medicines. Minerals include calcium, magnesium, zinc or iron.

You may also need to limit caffeine in your diet while taking this medication as ciprofloxacin can increase its effects. Caffeine can cause a nervous feeling, trouble sleeping or fast heartbeat. Caffeine is found in coffee, cola drinks, tea and chocolate.

please turn over →

How to take this medication (continued)

If you miss a dose of this medication, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at one time.

Long Acting Tablets (XL): Swallow whole. Do not split, crush or chew the tablets.

Oral Liquid with Microcapsules: Shake the oral liquid for at least 15 seconds before measuring and taking each dose. Do not chew the microcapsules in the liquid. This oral liquid can be stored in the fridge or at room temperature, and used for up to 14 days after the pharmacist has mixed it.

While taking this medication you may notice

- upset stomach or nausea
- headache
- dizziness
- drowsiness
- trouble sleeping
- your skin is sensitive to sun

If your skin becomes more sensitive to sunlight, avoid direct sunlight. While in the sun, wear sunscreen and sunglasses that block ultraviolet (UV) light, a hat and clothing that covers your skin.

Contact your doctor if you notice

- severe diarrhea
- continued infection or fever
- skin rash or hives
- swelling of hands, face, throat or lips
- pain in joints, muscles or tendons – this may happen during or following treatment with ciprofloxacin
- unusual nervousness or trouble sleeping
- fast heart beat
- seizures or convulsions