

Patient Information: CIPRO (ciprofloxacin) ORAL TABLET 500mg

GENERAL INFORMATION: This drug belongs to a class of drugs called quinolone antibiotics. *You have been given this drug for protection against possible exposure to anthrax.*

You have been provided a limited supply of medicine. Local emergency health workers or your healthcare provider will inform you if you need more medicine after you finish this supply. If so upon your follow-up visit, you will be told how to get more medicine. You will also be told if no more medicine is needed.

Take this medicine as prescribed, one tablet by mouth, two times a day.

If this drug will be used for children, you will be provided special preparation and dosing instructions.

Pregnant women and mothers who are breast feeding generally are given CIPRO to prevent anthrax infection. If they are allergic to CIPRO, it is safe for them and their babies if they take another drug, Doxycycline.

Keep taking your medicine, even if you feel okay, unless your doctor tells you to stop. If you stop taking this medicine too soon, you may become infected, or your infection may come back.

You should take this medicine with a full glass of water. Drink several glasses of water each day while you are taking this medicine. It is best to take this medicine 2 hours after a meal. If it upsets your stomach, you may take it with food, but do not take it with milk, yogurt, or cheese. If you miss a dose, take the missed dose as soon as possible. If it is almost time for your next regular dose, wait until then to take your medicine, and skip the missed dose. *Do not take two doses at the same time.*

DRUGS AND FOODS TO AVOID: Do not take the following drugs within 2 hours of taking Cipro: magnesium/aluminum antacids, vitamins, calcium supplements, iron supplements, zinc supplements, sucralfate (Carafate), or Videx (didanosine). You may take them 2 hours after or 6 hours before CIPRO.

Avoid drinking more than one or two caffeinated beverages (coffee, tea, soft drinks) per day. Avoid taking this medicine with foods containing large amounts of calcium, like milk, yogurt, or cheese.

Some drugs can interfere with CIPRO or can be altered by taking CIPRO. Discuss this with your physician if you are taking asthma medicine like theophylline, gout medicine like probenecid (Benemid), or a blood thinner such as warfarin (Coumadin). Also call your physician or other medical provider if you are taking cyclophosphamide (Cytoxan), cyclosporine (Neoral, Sandimmune, SangCya, Restasis); glyburide (DiaBeta, Glynase, Micronase); Metoclopramide (Reglan), Metoprolol (Lopressor), methotrexate, or phenytoin (Dilantin).

WARNINGS: *Do not take this medicine if you have had an allergic reaction to ciprofloxacin (Cipro) or other quinolone medicines such as levofloxacin (Levaquin), norfloxacin (Noroxin), ofloxacin (Floxin), gatifloxacin (Tequin), moxifloxacin (Avalox), or nalidixic acid (NegGram).*

CIPRO should be used with caution in patients who have seizures (epilepsy) or kidney disease (renal insufficiency) and children under age 18 who have joint-related problems. Begin taking CIPRO as prescribed and contact your physician or other medical provider for further instructions.

This medicine may make you dizzy or lightheaded. Avoid driving or using machinery until you know how it will affect you.

This medicine increases the chance of sunburn; make sure to use sunscreen to protect your skin.

SIDE EFFECTS: Call your doctor or seek medical advice right away if you are having any of these side effects: rash or hives; swelling of face, throat, or lips; shortness of breath or trouble breathing; seizures; or severe diarrhea. Less serious side effects include nausea, mild diarrhea, stomach pain, dizziness, and headache. Talk with your doctor if you have problems with these side effects.