

READ THIS FIRST

Summary of Medication Instructions

1 You have been given 1 bottle of antibiotics for each member of your household – either Doxycycline or Ciprofloxacin (also called Cipro). Both antibiotics are safe and effective in preventing anthrax.

- o **Most people, including children, will take Doxycycline.** Anyone with a known allergy to Doxycycline should take Ciprofloxacin.
- o **Pregnant or breast feeding women are *generally* given Ciprofloxacin.** However, if they are allergic to Ciprofloxacin, it is still safe for mothers and their babies to take Doxycycline.
- o **Write the initials or name for each household member on their bottle.**
- o **If you were given Ciprofloxacin and you have been told you have decreased kidney function,** read the separate instruction sheet that explains how much to take.

2 Adults and children able to swallow pills must take one pill every 12 hours.

- o **Begin taking the medication today.** These antibiotics are most effective when started soon after exposure and *before* symptoms might appear.
- o **Each bottle has enough pills for the first 10 days.** The Health Department will make an announcement *if* you need to take your antibiotic longer and where to get additional supplies. This decision will be made after tests have determined the exact nature of the threat.
- o **Carefully read the information sheets** about your antibiotic and about anthrax that have been provided in your packet of materials. Share the information you've been given with your household members.
- o **For children or adults who cannot swallow pills,** follow the separate instruction sheets you have been given. The sheets tell you:
 - o How to crush and mix the Doxycycline or Ciprofloxacin pills
 - o How much to give your child depending on their weight
 - o To take one dose every 12 hours

Important

Call your doctor or seek medical attention right away *if* you develop any of these side effects: skin rash, hives, or itching; wheezing or trouble breathing; swelling of the face, lips, or throat; convulsions; severe diarrhea.

This information has been approved by:



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