

# Palmetto State Pharmaceuticals

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## *Patient Drug Education*

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### **CIPROFLOXACIN 0.3% EYE DROP**

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#### **USES:**

This medication is used to treat eye infections. Ciprofloxacin belongs to a class of drugs called quinolone antibiotics. It works by stopping the growth of bacteria. This medication treats only bacterial eye infections. It will not work for other types of eye infections. Unnecessary use or overuse of any antibiotic can lead to its decreased effectiveness.

#### **HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICATION:**

**HOW TO USE:** To apply eye drops, wash your hands first. To avoid contamination, do not touch the dropper tip or let it touch your eye or any other surface. Do not wear contact lenses while you are using this medicine. Sterilize contact lenses according to manufacturer's directions and check with your doctor before using them. Tilt your head back, look upward and pull down the lower eyelid to make a pouch. Hold the dropper directly over your eye and place one drop into it. Look downward and gently close your eyes for 1 to 2 minutes. Place one finger at the corner of your eye (near the nose) and apply gentle pressure. This will prevent the medication from draining out. Try not to blink and do not rub your eye. Repeat these steps for your other eye if so directed, and if your dose is for more than 1 drop. Do not rinse the dropper. Replace the dropper cap after each use. If you are using another kind of eye medication (e.g., drops or ointments), wait at least 5 minutes before applying other medications. Use eye drops before eye ointments to allow the eye drops to enter the eye. Use this medication regularly in order to get the most benefit from it. Continue using it for the full time prescribed even if symptoms disappear after a few days. Stopping the medication too early may allow bacteria to continue to grow, which may result in a relapse of the infection. Inform your doctor if your condition persists or worsens.

#### **SIDE EFFECTS:**

This medication may temporarily sting or burn your eyes for a minute or two when applied. Eye discomfort, itching, redness, tearing, eyelid crusting, feeling as if something is in your eye, blurred vision, a bad taste in your mouth, or sensitivity to light may occur. If any of these effects persist or worsen, notify your doctor or pharmacist promptly. White crystals may appear in the treated eye(s) after the first few days of ciprofloxacin use, but usually go away in a few weeks. This effect is harmless. Keep your scheduled appointments so your doctor can closely monitor your eye infection. If you notice any new or worsening eye symptoms (e.g., increased discharge, eye pain), tell your doctor immediately. Remember that your doctor has prescribed this medication because the benefit to you is greater than the risk of side effects. Many people using this medication do not have serious side effects. Use of this medication for prolonged or repeated periods may result in a new fungal eye infection. Do not use it for longer than prescribed. Contact your doctor if you notice new or worsening symptoms. Tell your doctor immediately if any of these unlikely but serious side effects occur: staining of the eyes, swelling in or around the eye, eye pain, worsening vision. A very serious allergic reaction to this drug is unlikely, but seek immediate medical attention if it occurs. Symptoms of a serious allergic reaction may include: rash, itching, swelling, severe dizziness, trouble breathing. If you notice other effects not listed above, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

#### **PRECAUTIONS:**

Before using ciprofloxacin, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are allergic to it; or to other quinolones (e.g., levofloxacin, moxifloxacin), preservatives (e.g., benzalkonium chloride); or if you have any other allergies. Before using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist your medical history, especially of: contact lens use, other eye problems. Use caution engaging in activities requiring clear vision, such as driving or using machinery, because your vision may be temporarily blurred or unstable after applying this drug. Limit alcoholic beverages. This medication should be used only when clearly needed during pregnancy. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor. It is not known if the medication in this product passes into breast milk. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding.

#### **DRUG INTERACTIONS:**

Your healthcare professionals (e.g., doctor or pharmacist) may already be aware of any possible drug interactions and may be monitoring you for it. Do not start, stop, or change the dosage of any medicine before checking with them first. Before using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist of all prescription and nonprescription/herbal products you may use.

#### **NOTES:**

Do not share this medication with others. This medication has been prescribed for your current condition only. Throw away the unused portion after therapy is completed. Do not use it later for another infection or give it to someone else. A different medication may be necessary in those cases.

#### **MISSED DOSE:**

If you miss a dose, use it as soon as you remember. If it is near the time of the next dose, skip the missed dose and resume your usual dosing schedule. Do not double the dose to catch up.

#### **STORAGE:**

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Store between 36-86 degrees F (2-30 degrees C) away from light and moisture. Do not freeze. Do not store in the bathroom. Keep all medicines away from children and pets. Discard the solution if it changes color, becomes cloudy, or develops particles.