

# Palmetto State Pharmaceuticals

## *Patient Drug Education*

### **CIPROFLOXACIN 250 MG TABLET**

#### **USES:**

This medication is used to treat a variety of bacterial infections. Ciprofloxacin belongs to a class of drugs called quinolone antibiotics. It works by stopping the growth of bacteria. This antibiotic treats only bacterial infections. It will not work for viral infections (e.g., common cold, flu). Unnecessary use or overuse of any antibiotic can lead to its decreased effectiveness.

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

**HOW TO USE:** Read the Patient Information Leaflet provided by your pharmacist before you start using ciprofloxacin. If you have any questions regarding the information, consult your doctor or pharmacist. This medication may be taken with or without food, usually twice a day in the morning and evening or as directed by your doctor. The dosage and length of treatment is based on your medical condition and response to therapy. Take this medication 2 hours before or 6 hours after taking any medications or antacids containing magnesium, aluminum, or calcium. Some examples include quinapril, certain forms of didanosine (chewable/dispersible buffered tablets or pediatric oral solution), vitamins/minerals, antacids, dairy products (e.g., milk, yogurt), calcium-enriched juice, and sucralfate. Other products include bismuth subsalicylate, iron, and zinc. They bind with ciprofloxacin, preventing its full absorption. However, this medication may be taken with dairy products or calcium-enriched juice as part of a meal since food will help prevent the drug from binding to calcium. Drink plenty of fluids while taking this medication unless your doctor tells you otherwise. Antibiotics work best when the amount of medicine in your body is kept at a constant level. Therefore, take this drug at evenly spaced intervals. Continue to take this medication until the full prescribed amount is finished, 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:**

Stomach upset, loss of appetite, diarrhea, nausea, headache, vision changes or dizziness may occur. If any of these effects persist or worsen, notify your doctor or pharmacist promptly. 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. Tell your doctor immediately if any of these unlikely but serious side effects occur: sunburn-like skin reaction (sun sensitivity), shaking (tremors). Tell your doctor immediately if any of these rare but very serious side effects occur: seizures, mental/mood changes (including rare thoughts of suicide), numbness/tingling of the hands/feet, hearing loss, easy bruising/bleeding, persistent sore throat/fever, irregular heartbeat, chest pain, stomach pain, yellowing of eyes/skin, dark urine, unusual change in the amount of urine, unusual tiredness. This medication may rarely cause tendon damage (e.g., tendonitis, tendon rupture). Stop exercising, rest, and seek immediate medical attention if you develop joint/muscle/tendon pain or swelling. This medication may rarely cause a severe intestinal condition (pseudomembranous colitis) due to a certain type of resistant bacteria. This condition may occur weeks after treatment has stopped. Do not use anti-diarrhea products or narcotic pain medications if you have the following symptoms because these products may make them worse. Tell your doctor immediately if you develop: persistent diarrhea, abdominal or stomach pain/cramping, blood/mucus in your stool. Use of this medication for prolonged or repeated periods may result in oral thrush or a new vaginal yeast infection (oral or vaginal fungal infection). Contact your doctor if you notice white patches in your mouth, a change in vaginal discharge or other new symptoms. 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 taking ciprofloxacin, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are allergic to it; or to other quinolones such as gatifloxacin, gemifloxacin, levofloxacin, or moxifloxacin; or if you have any other allergies. Before using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist your medical history, especially of: seizures, brain/nervous system disorders, kidney disease, joint/tendon problems (e.g., tendonitis, bursitis), liver disease, blood vessel problems. This drug may make you dizzy or lightheaded; use caution while engaging in activities requiring alertness such as driving or using machinery. Limit alcoholic beverages. This medication may make you more sensitive to the sun. Avoid prolonged sun exposure, tanning booths and sunlamps. Use a sunscreen and wear protective clothing when outdoors. Kidney function declines as you grow older. This medication is removed by the kidneys. Therefore, elderly people may be at a greater risk for tendon problems while using this drug, especially if they are also taking corticosteroids (e.g., prednisone, hydrocortisone). Children may be at greater risk for joint/tendon problems while using this drug. Discuss the risks and benefits with the doctor. This medication should be used only when clearly needed during pregnancy. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor. This medication passes into breast milk. Breast-feeding is not recommended while using this drug.

#### **DRUG INTERACTIONS:**

See also How to Use section. 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. This drug should not be used with the following medication because a very serious interaction may occur: tizanidine. If you are currently using this medication listed above, tell your doctor or pharmacist before starting ciprofloxacin. Before using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist of all prescription and nonprescription products you may use, especially of: clozapine, corticosteroids (e.g., prednisone, hydrocortisone), cyclosporine, duloxetine, glyburide, methotrexate, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs such as ibuprofen, naproxen), phenytoin, probenecid, ropinirole, sevelamer, theophylline, live bacterial vaccines, warfarin. Report the use of drugs which might increase seizure risk (decrease seizure threshold) when combined with ciprofloxacin such as:

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phenothiazines (e.g., thioridazine), tricyclic antidepressants (e.g., amitriptyline), isoniazid (INH), and theophylline, among others. Consult your doctor or pharmacist for details. Avoid drinking large amounts of beverages containing caffeine (coffee, tea, colas), eating large amounts of chocolate, or taking medications that contain caffeine such as over-the-counter stimulants. This drug may increase and/or prolong the effects of caffeine. This medication may interfere with certain laboratory tests, possibly causing false test results. Make sure laboratory personnel and your doctors know you are taking this drug.

## **NOTES:**

Do not share this medication with others. This medication has been prescribed for your current condition only. Do not use it later for another infection unless told to do so by your doctor. A different medication may be necessary in those cases. Laboratory and/or medical tests (e.g., kidney function, blood counts, cultures) should be performed periodically to monitor your progress or check for side effects. Consult your doctor for more details.

## **MISSED DOSE:**

If you miss a dose, take 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:**

Store at room temperature below 86 degrees F (30 degrees C) away from light and moisture. Do not store in the bathroom. Keep all medicines away from children and pets.