

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center

Medication Information Sheet for Cipro and Levaquin

Brand Name: Cipro, Levaquin

Generic Name: ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin

Drug Class: Antibiotic/Quinolone

What do these medications do?

Cipro and Levaquin are used to treat abscesses, fistulas, bacterial overgrowth in the intestine and pouchitis. They have antimicrobial activity (kill bacteria).

Possible Side Effects:

This medication is well tolerated by most people. If you have problems with less serious side effects, please talk with your doctor. Often, these side effects lessen and/or disappear with a decrease of dosage.

- Diarrhea
- GI upset (nausea, abdominal discomfort)
- Joint or muscle pain

Call your doctor immediately if you have any of these side effects:

- Allergic reaction (Itching or hives, swelling in face or hands, swelling or tingling in the mouth or throat, tightness in chest, trouble breathing)
- Achilles' tendon pain or rupture
- Seizure (rare)

Warning:

- You should avoid this medication during pregnancy and breastfeeding
- This medicine may make your skin more sensitive to sunlight. Use a sunscreen when you are outdoors. Avoid sunlamps and tanning beds.
- Tell your doctor if you have a seizure disorder

Dosage and Administration:

Your dose is _____

- This medication may be taken with food but avoid taking with dairy and iron products
- Maintain adequate hydration by increasing the amount of non-caffeinated beverages you drink daily
- Do not take with calcium supplements (TUMS, Caltrate, Citracal, Os-Cal, Pepsid Complete)
- Do not take with iron supplements (Feosol, Slow Fe, Fergon, multivitamins with iron)
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember

Please tell your doctor if you take any of these medications:

- Anticoagulants (Coumadin)
- Anticonvulsants (Phenytoin, Phenobarbitol)
- Theophylline (Theo24, Uniphyl)
- Oral hypoglycemic medications (especially Glyburide)
- Probenacid
- Cyclosporin