

Medication Information Sheet for Patient

Doxycycline

Oral (by mouth): Capsule

This medication is a tetracycline antibiotic and is used to treat infections. Also used to prevent malaria and treat rosacea or severe acne.

DO NOT USE if you had an allergic reaction to doxycycline or another tetracycline antibiotic, or if you are pregnant or breastfeeding. This medication is not right for everyone.

How to use this medication:

Capsule: Swallow whole. Do not break, crush, chew, or open it.

Take on an empty stomach (1 hour before or 2 hours after a meal).

Drink plenty of fluids to avoid throat problems.

Use only the brand of medicine your doctor prescribed; other brands may not work the same.

Read and follow the patient instructions that come with this medicine. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions.

Take all of the medicine in your prescription to clear up your infection, even if you feel better after the first few doses. Never share your medicine with anyone. Keep all medicine out of the reach of children.

Missed dose: Take a dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then and take a regular dose. Do not take extra medicine to make up for a missed dose.

Store the medicine in a closed container at room temperature, away from heat, moisture, and direct light.

Tip: Avoid sex for 7 days after completing treatment.

Drugs and Foods to Avoid:

Some medicines can affect how doxycycline works. Ask your doctor or pharmacist before using any other medicine, including over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal products.

Do not drink alcohol while using this medicine and for at least 7 days after treatment.

Tell your doctor if you are using any of the following:

- Bismuth subsalicylate
- Acne medicines (including isotretinoin)
- Birth control pills
- Blood thinner (including warfarin)
- Medicine for seizures (including carbamazepine, phenobarbital, phenytoin)
- Medicine that contains aluminum, calcium, magnesium, or iron (including an antacid or vitamin supplement)
- Medicine to treat psoriasis (including acitretin)

- Penicillin antibiotic
- Stomach medicine

Possible side effects while using this medication:

Call your doctor right away if you notice any of these side effects:

- Allergic reaction: Itching or hives, swelling in your face or hands, swelling or tingling in your mouth or throat, chest tightness, trouble breathing
- Blistering, peeling, red skin rash
- Burning, pain, or irritation in your upper stomach or throat
- Diarrhea that may contain blood
- Fever, chills, cough, runny or stuffy nose, sore throat, body aches
- Joint pain, unusual tiredness or weakness
- Severe headache, dizziness, vision changes
- Sudden and severe stomach pain, nausea, vomiting, lightheadedness
- Swollen, painful, or tender lymph glands in the neck, armpit, or groin, or yellow skin or eyes

If you notice these less serious side effects, talk with your doctor:

- Darkening of your skin, scars, teeth, or gums
- Sores or white patches on your lips, mouth, or throat

If you notice other side effects that you think are caused by this medicine, tell your doctor.

Warnings while using this medication:

This medicine may cause birth defects if either partner is using it during conception or pregnancy.

Tell your doctor if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Birth control pills may not work as well when used together with this medicine. Use a second form of birth control to keep from getting pregnant.

Tell your doctor if you have kidney disease, liver disease, asthma, an allergy to sulfites, had surgery on your stomach, or a history of yeast infections.

This medicine may cause the following problems:

- Permanent change in tooth color (in children younger than 8 years of age)
- Serious skin reactions, including drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS)
- Increased pressure inside the head
- Yeast infection
- Immune system problems

This medicine can cause diarrhea. Call your doctor if the diarrhea becomes severe, does not stop, or is bloody. Do not take any medicine to stop diarrhea until you have talked to your doctor. Diarrhea can occur 2 months or more after you stop taking this medicine.

Wear sunscreen. This medicine may make your skin more sensitive to sunlight. Do not use sunlamps or tanning beds.

Tell any doctor or dentist who treats you that you are using this medicine. This medicine may affect certain medical test results.

Call your doctor if your symptoms do not improve or if they get worse.

Keep all appointments. Your doctor will do lab tests at regular visits to check on the effects of this medicine.