

Department of Pharmacy

## Single Dose of Ciprofloxacin for Prophylaxis of Meningococcal Disease

Information for parents and carers

### Why is it important for my child to take this medication?

The antibiotic you will be given is called Ciprofloxacin. The meningococcal germs that cause meningitis and septicaemia can be carried in the nose and throat. This antibiotic will kill them. Ciprofloxacin is an antibiotic that is frequently used to treat lots of different conditions. It is recommended in national guidelines for close contacts of someone with meningococcal disease.

### What is ciprofloxacin available in?

It comes in a tablet, but if you are unable to swallow the tablet there is also a liquid preparation available.

### How much should I give?

Ciprofloxacin for prophylaxis of Meningococcal Disease should be given by mouth as a one off dose, as directed by the prescriber on your medication label.

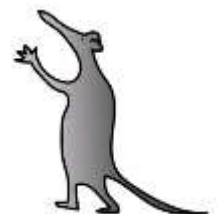
### What if my child is sick (vomits)?

If your child is sick less than 30 minutes after having a dose, give them the same dose again. If your child is sick more than 30 minutes after having a dose, you do not need to give them another dose.

### Are there any possible side effects?

Like all medicines, Ciprofloxacin can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them:

- **Facial swelling.** Very rarely breathing difficulties may occur with facial swelling. **You should seek medical attention urgently if this occurs.**
- Tummy ache, diarrhoea and nausea.
- Tiredness and headaches.
- Rash and itching.
- Pain and inflammation around the joints.



### Can other medicines be given at the same time as Ciprofloxacin?

**Tell your doctor / pharmacist if your child is taking any other medication, including over the counter medicines.**

You can give your child medicines that contain paracetamol or ibuprofen, unless your doctor has told you not to. Do not take the dose if you have taken antacid / indigestion medicines or preparations containing iron or mineral supplements within the last four hours. Please see the doctor or nurse if this is the case.

## Where should I keep this medicine?

Store in the original container  
Keep container in the outer carton  
Do not store above 25°C  
Do not use medicines after the expiry date.

## Please tell the doctor or nurse if you are:

- Allergic to ciprofloxacin
- Have a history of epilepsy or G6PD deficiency so that they can arrange an alternative medicine.

## Who to contact for further details

If you have any questions about your medication whilst you are in hospital, please do not hesitate to ask one of the Pharmacy team, alternatively you can telephone us on 0151 252 5311.

This leaflet only gives general information. You must always discuss the individual treatment of your child with the appropriate member of staff. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about your child's treatment.

This information can be made available in other languages and formats if requested.

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