# Patient Education

## Ciprofloxacin (sip roe flox' a sin)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Generic Name</th>
<th>Cipro® (There may be other brand names for this medication.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### How is it Administered?

Your medicine will be given by mouth as a tablet, long-acting tablet, or liquid.

### What is it Used For?

This drug is an antibiotic that is used to treat infections caused by bacteria.

### What Should I Tell My Doctor Before I Begin Taking Cipro?

Tell your doctor if you:
- have had an allergic reaction to any fluoroquinolone antibiotic
- have diabetes, kidney disease, or liver disease
- have any joint disorders such as rheumatoid arthritis

**This drug may interact with other medications, increasing or decreasing their effectiveness or causing harmful side effects. Tell your doctor and pharmacist about any prescription or over-the-counter medications, vitamins, herbal or diet supplements that you are taking.**

### How Should I Use Cipro?

- The extended-release tablet (Cipro® XR) is **NOT** the same as the regular-release tablet or liquid (Cipro®). Use the exact medicine that your doctor prescribed.
- Your doctor will tell you how much of this medicine to use and how often. Do not use more medicine or use it more often than your doctor tells you.
- Do not take Cipro with dairy products (like milk or yogurt) or calcium-added juices alone. (You can take it with food & dairy product)
- Swallow the extended-release tablet whole. Do not crush, break, or chew it.
- Shake the **oral liquid** for at least 15 seconds just before each use. **Do not chew the microcapsules** when you drink the oral liquid.
- Measure the oral liquid medicine with a marked measuring syringe or cup.
- Drink extra fluids so you will pass more urine while you are using this medicine to prevent kidney problems.
- Keep using this medicine for the full treatment time, even if you feel better after the first few doses.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you can. If it is almost time for
the next dose, wait and take it then and skip the missed dose.

- Do not use extra medicine to make up for a missed dose.
- Take only one extended release tablet (Cipro® XR) in a day.

What Are Some Possible Side Effects I May Experience?

- Photosensitivity: Use a sunscreen with a minimum of SPF 15 when you are outdoors.
- Diarrhea: Ask your doctor before taking any medications for diarrhea.
- Dizziness and/or drowsiness: Avoid driving, using machines, or doing anything else that could be dangerous if you are not alert.

When to Call Your Doctor

Call Your Doctor Immediately if You Experience:

- any sign of an allergic reaction: itching or hives, swelling in your face or hands, swelling or tingling in your mouth or throat, chest tightness, trouble breathing, dizziness, or palpitations
- blistering, peeling red skin rash
- blood in your urine, or change in how much or how often you urinate
- chest pain, fast, slow, pounding, or irregular heartbeat
- confusion, unusual thought or behavior
- seizures
- any signs of tendonitis: pain, swelling, tenderness, stiffness, or difficulty in moving a muscle
- any sign of a tendon rupture: hearing or feeling a snap or pop in a tendon area, bruising after an injury to a tendon area, or inability to move or to bear weight

Call Your Doctor as Soon as Possible if You Experience:

- blurred vision, feeling more sensitive to light or colors
- feeling nervous, restless, anxious, or agitated
- headache, migraine, bad dreams, trouble sleeping
- mild muscle or joint pain, decreased joint movement
- nausea, vomiting that is not relieved by prescribed medication or that prevents you from eating or drinking
- sores or white patches in your mouth or throat
- numbness, tingling, weakness, or burning pain in your hands, arms, legs, or feet
- diarrhea that may contain blood
- yellowing of your skin or the whites of your eyes

What Else Should I Know About Cipro?

- This drug may make your tendons more susceptible to injury (tendonitis). Call your doctor if you have pain or swelling in your knee, ankle, shoulder, elbow, hand, or wrist. You may need to stop using this medicine.
- Your doctor will need to check your blood or urine at regular visits

© 2011 Roswell Park Cancer Institute
while you are using this medicine. Be sure to keep all appointments.

- Use this medicine only to treat the infection your doctor has prescribed it for. Do not use this medicine for any infection that has not been checked by your doctor.

- Some medicines, antacids, and mineral supplements can change the way Cipro works in your body. These medicines include Maalox® or Mylanta®, sucralfate (Carafate®), and multivitamins with calcium, iron, or zinc. Didanosine (Videx®) powder or chewable buffered tablets may also affect how Cipro works. If you use any of these medicines, take them at least 2 **hours before or 6 hours after** you take Cipro.

- Avoid caffeine (coffee, soda, chocolate) while using this medicine. Cipro may cause caffeine to stay in your body longer than usual.

- Store the medicine in a closed container at room temperature, away from heat, moisture, and direct light. You may store the oral liquid at room temperature or in the refrigerator. Do not freeze it. Do not keep the oral liquid for more than 14 days.

- Keep all medications away from children and do not share your medicines with anyone.