

DOXYCYCLINE

Doxycycline should NOT be taken under the following circumstances

- You are pregnant, plan to become pregnant or are breast feeding
- You have severe liver disease
- You are allergic to doxycycline, tetracycline or minocycline
- Anyone less than 10 years old.

How to Take Doxycycline

- The ideal time to take the medication is one hour before lunch or dinner
- If taking the medication twice daily, take one dose one hour before lunch and the other dose one hour before dinner
- If taking the medication once daily or once every other day, take the dose one hour before dinner
- Take it with a glass of water
- If doxycycline causes mild nausea or abdominal discomfort, it may be taken with lunch or dinner. If the nausea or abdominal discomfort is severe or persists, stop the medication and call Dr. Cohen.
- Do not take the medication first thing in the morning
- Do NOT take the medication at bedtime or before lying down as it may cause ulcers of the esophagus.

Common Side Effects

- Gastrointestinal (see above).
- Easy or severe sunburning, sun-related skin rashes, or sun-related nail damage. It is **very** important to protect your skin from sun exposure.
- Yeast infections.

Stop the medication and call Dr. Cohen if you develop these or any other problems with this medication.

Uncommon Side Effects

- C. Difficile (pseudomembranous enterocolitis). Stop the medication and call Dr. Cohen if you develop severe diarrhea.
- Various types of hypersensitivity reactions which include minor or severe skin rashes and other unusual systemic diseases.
- Gram negative acne or folliculitis.
- Drug induced hepatitis and/or pancreatitis
- Pseudotumor cerebri. Immediately stop the medication and call Dr. Cohen if you experience headache and/or visual disturbances with or without nausea and/or vomiting.

Stop the medication and call Dr. Cohen if you develop these or any other problems with this medication. Also stop the medication and call Dr. Cohen if your condition worsens.

Some Drug Interactions

- Do NOT take with isotretinoin
- Doxycycline may REDUCE the effectiveness of birth control pills. Use a second form of contraception.
- Doxycycline may increase blood levels and toxicity of warfarin (coumadin), theophylline, digoxin, methotrexate, insulin and lithium.
- Antacids and milk will decrease absorption of doxycycline.

Please refer to your pharmacy package insert for a more comprehensive list of drug interactions.

Laboratory Monitoring During Long Term Treatment With Doxycycline

- The FDA recommends “periodic laboratory testing.”
- Comprehensive reviews on long term treatment do not provide guidelines and blood testing is not typically done by dermatologists. Let Dr. Cohen know if you would like periodic blood testing.

Please let Dr. Cohen know right away if you are uncomfortable with this medication. We can work on other options for treating your condition.

Seth J. Cohen, M.D.

www.hendersonvilledermatology.com

828-697-1170