

Oxfordshire Sexual Health Service

## Important information about your doxycycline medicine

### Information for patients

#### How to take your medicine

Doxycycline is an antibiotic. Take the dose twice a day as directed on the label, in the morning and evening and always with food (or you may feel sick). Do not take immediately before going to bed.

#### Important instructions

- **To avoid re-infection, do not have any sexual contact (even with a condom) until both you and your partner have completely finished this treatment.**
- Do not take this medicine if:
  - you are allergic to it or any of the ingredients
  - you are pregnant or could be pregnant
  - you are breastfeeding.
- Do not drink milk or take any indigestion remedies at the same time as you take this medicine, as this can stop the medicine from working.
- Let your doctor know if you have any other medical condition or if you are taking any other medicines (including over the counter remedies).
- Small amounts of alcohol will not interfere with this treatment.

#### Side effects

- You may experience nausea and vomiting. It may help to take this medicine with food.
- This medicine makes your skin more sensitive to the sun's rays, even if you do not normally burn. Avoid

*Turn over . . . . .*

exposure to direct sunlight or sunlamps while taking this medicine.

- There are other less common side effects. Please let your doctor know if you are troubled by any new symptoms or have any concerns.

## Contraception

Remember, to avoid re-infection do not have any sexual contact (even with a condom) until both you and your partner have completely finished this treatment.

If you have taken your contraceptive correctly and have no side effects while taking your antibiotics, your contraceptive pill/patch/ring will be effective after the treatment has finished. If you are ill while taking the antibiotics (vomiting or severe diarrhoea) you should use condoms in addition to your pill/patch/ring for 7 days after you have finished the antibiotics.

## How to contact us

If you have any queries or concerns about your medicine, you can contact us on the following numbers:

**Oxford 01865 231 231**

**Banbury 01865 904 500**

## Further information

Our website [www.sexualhealthoxfordshire.nhs.uk](http://www.sexualhealthoxfordshire.nhs.uk) has further information that you may find helpful.

If you have a specific requirement, need an interpreter, a document in Easy Read, another language, large print, Braille or audio version, please call **01865 221 473** or email **[PALs@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:PALs@ouh.nhs.uk)**

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