

CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment 3 mg/g

ciprofloxacin hydrochloride

CONSUMER MEDICINE INFORMATION

What Is In This Leaflet

Read this leaflet carefully before you start to use CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment.

This leaflet has been written to answer some common questions about CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment. It does not contain all of the available information and does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. In deciding to prescribe CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment for you, your doctor has weighed the potential risks and the expected benefits of using this medicine.

The information in this leaflet applies to CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment only. This information does not apply to similar products, even if they contain the same ingredients.

If you have any concerns about using CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with your medicine.

You may need to read it again.

What CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment Is Used For

CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment contains the active ingredient ciprofloxacin hydrochloride. Ciprofloxacin hydrochloride is a “fluoroquinolone” antibiotic.

CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment is used to treat certain types of eye infections caused by bacteria. Your doctor will usually prescribe CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment because you have either:

- an ulcer on the surface of your eye (corneal ulcer),
or
- a type of eye infections called bacterial conjunctivitis or blepharitis.

Before You Use CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment

When you must not use it

Do not use Ciloxan[®] Eye Ointment if:

You are allergic to ciprofloxacin, any other “quinolone” antibiotic (e.g. nalidixic acid) or to any of the other ingredients in CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment (these are listed under “**Product Description**”); Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathing; swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body; rash, itching or hives on the skin.

Do not use Ciloxan[®] Eye Ointment if:

- The imprinted carton seals have been damaged or removed;
- the bottle/packaging shows signs of tampering
- the expiry date on the bottle/carton has passed.

If you use this medicine after the expiry date has passed, it may not work.

Do not put CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment into your eye(s) while you are wearing soft contact lenses.

The ointment base of CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment may be very difficult to clean off your lenses. CILOXAN[®] may cause irritation or discolour soft contact lenses. Contact lenses wear is not recommended during CILOXAN[®] treatment.

Do not use CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment in children under 12 months of age.

If you are not sure whether you should start using Ciloxan[®] Eye Ointment, talk to your doctor.

Before you start to use it

Tell your doctor if you have had an allergy to any other medicines or any other substances, such as foods, preservatives or dyes.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breast-feeding. Your doctor can discuss with you the risks and benefits involved.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you use Ciloxan[®] Eye Ointment.

Using other medicines

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including other eye drops or ointments, and any other medicines that you buy without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Some medicines and Ciloxan[®] Eye Ointment may

interfere with each other or add to the effects of Ciloxan[®] Eye Ointment. These include:

- medicines to thin your blood (e.g. warfarin)
- medicines to prevent tissue rejection (e.g. cyclosporin)
- theophylline for asthma or breathing problems
- caffeine for the treatment of migraines.

These medicines may be affected by Ciloxan[®] Eye Ointment, or may affect how well it works. You may need different amounts of your medicines, or you may need to take different medicines.

Your doctor or pharmacist has more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while using Ciloxan[®] Eye Ointment.

How to use CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment

Carefully follow all directions given to you by your doctor and pharmacist. They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you are being changed from one medicine to another, follow your doctor's instructions carefully as to when to stop the medicine and when to start the new eye ointment.

If you do not understand the instructions on the carton / bottle, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

How much to use

The usual dose of CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment depends on the *type* and *severity* of eye infection that is being treated.

The usual dose for corneal ulcers is:

1.25 cm ribbon in the affected eye(s) every 1-2 hours around the clock for 2 days, then every 4 hours for a further 12 days.

Your doctor may continue your treatment with CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment until the surface of your eye (cornea) is completely healed.

The usual dose for bacterial conjunctivitis (and blepharitis) is:

1.25 cm ribbon in the affected eye(s) 3 times per day for 2 days, then twice per day for 5 additional days.

Your doctor may continue your treatment with CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment until the infection is completely cleared.

Do not use CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment more often than your doctor or pharmacist has told you.

How to use it

It is important to use Ciloxan[®] exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. If apply the ointment less often than prescribed, they may not work as well and the eye problem may not improve. Applying the ointment more often than prescribed may not improve the eye problem any faster and may cause increased side effects.

If you are wearing soft contact lenses, remove them before applying the ointment in to eye.

How to use CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment

Follow these steps to use CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment:

1. Wash your hands thoroughly.
2. Remove the cap from the tube. Using your forefinger, gently pull your lower eyelid down to form a pouch (see Diagram 1).



3. Using your other hand, carefully squeeze a small ribbon (1.25 cm) of ointment into the pouch (see Diagram 2).



4. Making sure that the ointment remains within the eye, slowly close your eye without blinking (see Diagrams 3 and 4). Keep your eye closed for 1 to 2 minutes.



5. If necessary, repeat the above steps 1-5 for your other eye.
6. Place the cap on the tube and close it tightly.
7. Wash your hands again.

You may feel a slight burning sensation in the eye shortly after using CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment. If this persists, or is very uncomfortable, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

Do not touch the tip of the tube to your eye or to any other surface.

This will help to prevent your eye ointment becoming dirty or contaminated.

When to use it

Use CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment every day, at about the same times each day unless your doctor tells you otherwise. Using your eye ointment at the same times each day will have the best effect on your eye pressure. It will also help you remember when to use the eye ointment.

How long to use it

As CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment start to kill the bacteria that are causing the infection your eye(s) will feel better. It is very important, however, that you continue to use CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment for the full treatment period as directed by your doctor to ensure that the infection does not return.

If you are unsure about when to stop using CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment you should talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

If you forget to use CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment

If you forget to use CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment you should apply the dose that you missed as soon as you remember and then go back to using them normally. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose that you have missed and take your next dose when you are due to.

Never take a double dose to make up for the one that you missed.

If you are not sure what to do, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

In case of overdose

If you accidentally put too much ointment in your eye(s) immediately rinse your eye(s) with warm water.

If anyone accidentally swallows CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment immediately telephone the nearest Poisons Information Centre (in Australia call 13 11 26; in New Zealand call 0800 POISON or 0800 764 766 for advice, or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

While You Are Using CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment

Things you must do

- Tell your doctor if, for any reason, you have not used CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment exactly as prescribed. Otherwise your doctor may think

that the eye ointment were not effective and change the treatment unnecessarily.

- Tell your doctor if you become pregnant while you are using CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment.
- Tell your doctor and pharmacist that you are using CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment before you start taking any other medicines.

Things you must not do

- **Do not use CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment to treat other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.**
- Do not let children handle CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment. If a child accidentally swallows any of the ointment read the instructions under “**In case of overdose**”.
- Do not stop using CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment without first asking your doctor.
- Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if they appear to have the same condition as you.

Things to be careful of

Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment affects you and your vision. As with any eye medicine, temporary blurred vision or other visual disturbances may affect the ability to drive or use machinery in some people. If blurred vision occurs when you use your ointment, wait until your vision is clear before driving or operating machinery.

Side Effects

All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side effects.

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are using CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment.

Do not be alarmed by the following list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

Most side effects from CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment occur in, or around, the eye. These include:

- Redness, itching, irritation, pain, swelling or discomfort in or around the eye(s) and/or eyelids;
- Local discomfort (transient stinging, burning, itching or pain);
- A white precipitate in the eye(s) or crusting on the eyelids;
- Excess tear production or discharge from the eye(s);
- Dry eye(s);
- Staining, swelling or irregular appearance of the front of the eye(s) (cornea);
- Flaking skin of the eyelids
- A numb sensation in or around the eye(s);
- Tired eyes
- Allergic reactions;
- A feeling that something is in your eye(s);
- Decreased or blurred vision;
- Double vision
- Sensitivity to light.

These are the most common side effects of your medicine. They are usually mild and short lived.

Occasionally some people notice unwanted effects in the rest of their body as a result of using CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment. These effects may include:

- Bad taste in the mouth following the use of CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment;
- Dermatitis.
- Nausea;
- Diarrhoea or abdominal pain
- Headache;
- Dizziness
- Ear pain
- Increased drainage from the sinuses.

If you are elderly or if you are taking inflammation-inhibiting products similar to cortisone, you have a higher risk of getting tendon problems during treatment with CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment. If this occurs, stop treatment and immediately consult your doctor.

If any of the following happen, stop using the CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment and tell your doctor immediately or go to Accident & Emergency at your nearest hospital:

- skin rash
- swelling of face, hands or feet
- wheezing, difficulty in breathing
- shortness of breath (dyspnoea, heart failure)
- severe and sudden onset of pinkish, itchy swellings on the skin, also called hives or nettlerash.

These hypersensitivity reactions can be very serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalization. These side effects are very rare.

Let your doctor know if you notice any unwanted effects while using CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment, even if they do not appear in the lists above.

After Using CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment

Store CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment in a cool place, below 25°C. Do not freeze CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment.

Do not leave CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment in the car and do not leave it in the bathroom or in other warm, damp places.

Keep CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment, and all other medicines, in a safe place away from children. A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

Disposal

Write the date on the tube when you open the eye ointment and throw out any remaining solution after four weeks.

If your doctor tells you to stop using CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment or they have passed their expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with the remaining solution.

Product Description

What it looks like

CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment comes in a 3.5g tube with screw cap.

Ingredients

Active ingredients(s):

- Ciprofloxacin hydrochloride (equiv. to 3mg/g ciprofloxacin)

Inactive ingredients:

- Mineral Oil
- White petrolatum

Further Information

This leaflet does not contain all of the information available about CILOXAN[®] Eye Ointment. If you have any questions, or are not sure about anything regarding your medicine, you should ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Supplied By

In Australia this product is supplied by:

Alcon Laboratories (Australia) Pty Ltd
25 Frenchs Forest Road East
FRENCHS FOREST NSW 2086

In New Zealand this product is distributed by:

Alcon New Zealand Limited
c/o Pharmaco NZ Limited
4 Fisher Crescent
Mt Wellington, Auckland

This leaflet was prepared on 12 January 2011

® Registered Trademark
