

Consumer Medicine Information

DOXINE

Doxycycline 100 mg tablets

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about DOXINE tablets. It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor and pharmacist. All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking DOXINE against the benefits they expect it will have for you. If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist. Keep this leaflet. You may want to read it again.

What DOXINE is used for

Your DOXINE tablets contain the active ingredient doxycycline. It is a broad spectrum antibiotic. This means it can be used to treat a wide range of organisms.

Doxycycline belongs to a class of medicines called tetracyclines. These medicines work by killing or stopping the growth of bacteria, which cause infections or make acne worse.

DOXINE is used to treat infections of the chest, urethra, womb and rectum.

DOXINE may be used in combination with amoebicides, which are used to treat parasites.

DOXINE may also be used to treat severe acne.

Your doctor may, however, prescribe DOXINE for another reason. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why DOXINE has been prescribed for you.

There is no evidence that DOXINE is addictive.

This medicine is available only with a doctor's prescription.

Before you take DOXINE

When you must not take it

Do not take DOXINE if you have an allergy to:

- doxycycline
- other tetracycline antibiotics (eg. Minomycin, Tetralysal)
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet

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 take DOXINE if you are taking preparations containing vitamin A (e.g. Vesanoid), isotretinoin (e.g. Isotane, Oratane) or etretinate.

Do not take DOXINE during periods of tooth development (the last half of pregnancy or in children 8 years and under).

DOXINE, like other tetracyclines, may cause permanent staining (yellow-grey-brown) and enamel loss in developing teeth.

Before you start taking it

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are allergic to any other medicines, foods, dyes or preservatives.

Tell your doctor if you have any other health problems.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.

DOXINE is not recommended during the last half of pregnancy (see 'When you must not take it' section). High doses of tetracyclines may also cause liver problems in pregnant women. Your doctor can discuss with you the risks and benefits of taking DOXINE during pregnancy.

Tell your doctor if you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed.

DOXINE passes into breast milk. Your doctor can discuss with you the risks and benefits involved.

Tell your doctor if you are scheduled to have surgery under general anaesthetic.

Some anaesthetics can interact with DOXINE and cause you to become very ill.

Tell your doctor if you work outdoors or you are likely to be exposed to strong sunlight or ultra-violet light (e.g. on a sun bed).

You should avoid exposure to strong sunlight while taking this medicine as your skin may be more sensitive to sunburn than normal.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell him/her before you start taking DOXINE.

Taking other medicines

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

Some medicines may be affected by DOXINE, or may affect how well it works. These include:

- another group of antibiotics called penicillins (eg. Amoxil, Augmentin)
- phenytoin (eg. Dilantin), carbamazepine or barbiturates (eg. Phenobarbitone), which are anticonvulsant medicines used for epilepsy
- warfarin, a medicine used to prevent blood clots (eg. Coumadin, Marevan)
- preparations containing vitamin A (e.g. Vesanoid), including vitamin supplements
- preparations containing calcium or iron, including vitamin supplements
- antacids, used for indigestion
- some medicines used for skin problems, such as isotretinoin (e.g. Isotane, Oratane) or etretinate
- sodium bicarbonate
- sodium lactate
- disodium hydrogen edetate
- acetazolamide (e.g. Diamox) or ethoxzolamide, medicines used to treat glaucoma (raised eye pressure). Acetazolamide may also be used as a diuretic (increasing urine output) or for altitude sickness
- the contraceptive pill (birth control pill). DOXINE may decrease the effectiveness of some birth control pills. Your doctor may advise you to use an additional method of contraception while you are taking DOXINE.

You may need different amounts of your medicine or you may need to take different medicines.

Alcohol may also interfere with the absorption of DOXINE.

Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while taking DOXINE.

How to take DOXINE

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or pharmacist. They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet. If you do not understand the instructions on the label, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

How much to take

Your doctor will tell you how much DOXINE you need to take each day and when to take it. This depends on your condition and other factors such as your weight, and whether or not you are taking any other medicines.

For treating infections, the usual dose for adults is 200 mg on the first day, followed by 100 mg each day from then on.

Children over 8 years of age may need smaller doses, depending on their weight.

How to take DOXINE

Swallow the tablets whole with a full glass of water or milk while sitting or standing upright. Stay upright for at least 30 minutes. Do not lie down immediately after taking DOXINE. This is so that the tablet can move swiftly as possible into the stomach and prevent irritation of your throat or oesophagus (food pipe), which you may feel as heartburn or indigestion.

When to take DOXINE

Take DOXINE during or immediately after a meal, preferably in the morning. This will reduce the chances of a stomach upset.

Take your medicine at about the same time each day. Taking it at the same time each day will have the best effect. It will also help you remember to take it.

How long to take it

Do not stop taking DOXINE, even if you feel better, unless advised by your doctor.

Your infection may not clear completely if you stop taking your medicine too soon.

For infections your doctor will tell you when to stop taking DOXINE as the length of treatment varies depending on the condition you have. It is usually stopped 24 to 48 hours after the fever and signs of the infection have gone.

For controlling acne, DOXINE is usually taken for a few months.

Keep taking DOXINE for as long as your doctor recommends. The duration of treatment your doctor has prescribed may be different from the above.

If you forget to take it

If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to. Otherwise, take it as soon as you remember and then go back to taking it as you would normally.

Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.

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

Taking your medicine at the same time each day may help you to remember to take it regularly. If you have trouble remembering to take your medicine, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

While you are taking DOXINE

Things you must do

If you become pregnant while taking DOXINE, tell your doctor immediately.

If you are taking DOXINE for an infection and your symptoms do not improve within a few days, or if they become worse, tell your doctor.

If you get severe diarrhoea, tell your doctor or pharmacist immediately. Do this even if it occurs several weeks after you have stopped taking DOXINE. Diarrhoea may mean that you have a serious condition affecting your bowel. You may need urgent medical care. Do not take any medicines for diarrhoea without checking with your doctor.

Tell all the doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are taking DOXINE.

If you plan to have surgery under general anaesthetic including dental surgery, tell your doctor or dentist that you are taking DOXINE.

Before starting any new medicine, tell your doctor or pharmacist that you are taking DOXINE.

If you are taking DOXINE for a long time, visit your doctor regularly so that they can check on your progress. Your doctor may want you to have some blood tests from time to time. This helps to prevent unwanted side effects

If you are taking iron or calcium preparations (including vitamin preparations that contain iron or calcium) or antacids, you must take them at least two hours before or two hours after DOXINE to make sure there is no problem with absorption.

If you are about to have any blood tests, tell your doctor that you are taking this medicine. DOXINE may interfere with the results of some tests.

Things you must not do

Do not take DOXINE to treat any other conditions unless your doctor tells you to.

Do not give DOXINE to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.

Do not stop taking DOXINE or lower the dosage without checking with your doctor. If you do not complete the full course prescribed by your doctor, all the bacteria may continue to grow and multiply so that your infection may not clear completely or may return.

Things to be careful of

Protect your skin when you are in the sun, especially between 10am and 3pm. If outdoors, wear protective clothing and use a SPF 30+ sunscreen. Do not use a sun lamp while taking DOXINE. DOXINE may cause your skin to be much more sensitive to sunlight than it is normally. Exposure to sunlight may cause a skin rash, itching, redness, or severe sunburn.

If your skin does appear to be burning, stop taking DOXINE and tell your doctor.

If you get a sore, white mouth or tongue while taking or soon after stopping DOXINE, tell your doctor. Also tell your doctor if you get vaginal itching or discharge. **This may mean you have a fungal infection called thrush. Sometimes, the use of DOXINE allows fungi to grow and the above symptoms to occur. DOXINE does not work against fungi.**

Side effects

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while taking DOXINE.

DOXINE is generally well tolerated. However, like all medicines, DOXINE may 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.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

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

Tell your doctor if you notice any of the following and they worry you:

- feeling sick, vomiting, diarrhoea
- taste loss, sore mouth or tongue
- loss of appetite
- stomach pain
- oral thrush (white, furry sore tongue and mouth)
- vaginal thrush (sore and itchy vagina, vaginal discharge)
- swelling and itching in the anal and genital areas
- staining of the teeth, loss of tooth enamel
- nail changes from exposure to sunlight
- persistent noise in the ears

Tell your doctor immediately, or go to the Accident and Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of the following:

- heartburn or indigestion, which may be due to irritation of the oesophagus (food pipe)
- difficulty or pain when swallowing
- severe diarrhoea, usually with blood and mucus, stomach pain and fever
- bleeding or bruising more easily than normal
- being short of breath when exercising, often with tiredness, headaches, dizziness, looking pale, and signs of frequent infections such as fever, chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers
- signs of liver disease such as feeling generally unwell, fever, itching, yellowing of the skin and/or eyes, and dark coloured urine
- passing little or no urine
- joint pain, muscle tenderness or weakness
- sharp chest pain
- severe sunburn that occurs more quickly than normal
- severe skin rash, itching, or hives; blistering, flaking or peeling of the skin
- shortness of breath, wheezing or troubled breathing; swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body.

Tell your doctor if you notice anything else that is making you feel unwell. **Other side effects not listed above may occur in some patients.**

After finishing DOXINE

See your doctor immediately if you notice any of the following, even if they occur several weeks after stopping treatment with DOXINE:

- watery and severe diarrhoea, which may also be bloody
- severe stomach cramps
- fever in combination with one or both of the above.

These are rare but serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation. DOXINE can cause some bacteria that are normally harmless and present in the bowel to multiply and cause the above symptoms.

Do not take any medicine for diarrhoea without checking with your doctor.

In case of overdose

You should only take the number of tablets that you have been told to take.

Immediately contact your doctor or the National Poisons Information Centre (0800 POISON or 0800 764 766) or go to the Emergency department at your nearest hospital, if you think that you may have taken too much, or if anyone else has taken any DOXINE by mistake. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention. Take the pack of DOXINE with you if you can.

Keep telephone numbers for these places handy.

Storage conditions

Keep DOXINE where children cannot reach it. A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

Keep your tablets in a cool, dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C.

Do not store DOXINE, or any other medicine, in the bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave it in the car on hot days. Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop taking this medicine or the tablets have passed their expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any that are left over

Product description

What it looks like

DOXINE tablets are round, yellow film-coated tablets, blank on both sides.

Ingredients

The active ingredient in DOXINE tablets is doxycycline (as doxycycline hyclate). Each tablet contains 115 mg of doxycycline hyclate, which is equivalent to 100 mg of doxycycline.

DOXINE tablets also contain the following inactive ingredients: microcrystalline cellulose, pregelatinised maize starch, colloidal silicon dioxide, and magnesium stearate. The tablet coating contains hypromellose, diethyl phthalate, hydroxypropyl cellulose, titanium dioxide (E171), quinoline yellow lake (E104) and iron oxide yellow (E172); and carnauba wax is used to polish the tablets.

If you want to know more

Should you have any questions regarding this product, please contact your doctor or pharmacist.

Who supplies this medicine

Distributed in New Zealand by:

Mylan New Zealand Ltd,
P O Box 11183,
Ellerslie,
Auckland.

Telephone: (09) 579 2792

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