CLOFAZIMINE

Clofazimine is an antibiotic used to treat tuberculosis (TB), leprosy, and other related infections.

When should I take this?

- Take with food or milk to help with absorption and to reduce stomach upset.
- Take this medicine at the same time every day. This will help you remember to take the medicine.

How should I take this?

- It is very important that you take clofazimine regularly.
- Take as directed by your doctor.

What should I do if I miss a dose?

- If you miss a dose, take that dose as soon as you remember. But if it is almost time for the next day's dose, skip the missed dose.
- Do not take a double dose.

Tell your doctor, nurse and pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any over-the-counter (non-prescription) products.

Avoid excessive exposure to sunlight or artificial UV light (e.g. sunlamps or tanning beds) while taking this medication. Clofazimine can make you more sensitive to the sun. Use sunscreen and wear protective clothing.

What are some possible side effects?

- nausea, vomiting and diarrhea
- dizziness or drowsiness
- dry skin or dry eyes
- itching
CLOFAZIMINE (cont’d)

Caution: Call your doctor or nurse immediately if you experience the following symptoms:

- unusual tiredness or weakness
- persistent nausea or vomiting
- yellowing of skin or eyes (may be orange if already have red to brownish black discoloration)
- severe abdominal or stomach pain
- bloody or black, tarry stools
- fainting or irregular heartbeats
- rash
- mood changes

Tell your doctor if you experience any unusual symptoms not mentioned on this information sheet.

This medicine may cause your body fluids such as tears, saliva, sweat, urine, feces; the surface of the eye and the lining of the eyelids to be **coloured red to brownish-black**. If this affects your vision, do not drive or operate machinery. It may also discolour the skin from red to brownish-black. This is harmless and reversible, but may take some time to return to normal after the end of therapy.

What else do I need to know about taking clofazimine?

- Tell your doctor or nurse if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or if you wish to breastfeed your baby.
- Tell your doctor or nurse if you wear soft contact lenses.

Where should I store this medication?

- Keep away from the reach of children.
- Protect from light.
- Capsules: Store at room temperature in a tightly closed container in a cool, dry place.

Where do I call if I have any other questions?

Your doctor, clinic or Public Health Unit: __________________________________

Vancouver TB Services Clinic: 604-707-2692
New Westminster TB Services Clinic: 604-707-2698
BCCDC Vaccine and Pharmacy Services: 604-707-2580