



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Provincial Tuberculosis Services

Main Switchboard
TB Services Fax

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www.bccdc.ca

LEVOFLOXACIN

Levofloxacin is an antibiotic used in the treatment of bacterial infections.

When should I take this?

- Levofloxacin may be taken with or without food.
- Take it with a full 8 oz (= 240 mL) glass of water at the same time every day. This will help you remember to take the medicine.
- Drink several glasses of fluids throughout the day.

How should I take this?

- It is very important that you take levofloxacin exactly 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.**

Is there anything I should avoid when taking this?

- Levofloxacin should be taken at least **2 hours before or 2 hours after** taking the following:
 - antacids containing aluminum, calcium, and/or magnesium (e.g. Maalox®, Mylanta®, Rolaids®)
 - sucralfate (ulcer medication)
 - supplements containing calcium, iron, or zinc

Before taking **LEVOFLOXACIN**, make sure you tell your doctor, nurse or pharmacist all the medications (including non-prescription) you are taking. **DO NOT** start a new medication without consulting a doctor or a pharmacist.

What are some possible side effects?

- nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- headache
- dizziness or light headedness
- insomnia

LEVOFLOXACIN (cont'd)

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

- rash, hives, or difficulty breathing
- irregular heartbeats or chest pain
- muscle, tendon, or joint pain
- pain, burning, tingling, numbness, weakness of hands or feet
- yellowing of the skin or white part of the eyes
- visual changes or disturbances
- severe or bloody diarrhea
- any other persistent side effects

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

Levofloxacin may cause light-headedness or dizziness. Use caution when driving, operating machinery or performing hazardous activity.

Levofloxacin can cause the skin to sunburn easily. Avoid excessive exposure to sunlight or artificial ultraviolet light (e.g. tanning beds, sunlamps). Use a sunscreen or wear protective clothing.

If you are a diabetic, have your blood glucose levels checked regularly while taking this medication.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or if you wish to breast-feed your baby.

Where should I store this medication?

- Keep away from the reach of children.
- Tablets: Store at room temperature (15°C to 30°C). Protect from light. Store 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