



### The Washington University Inflammatory Bowel Disease Clinic Medication Information Sheet for Ciprofloxacin (Cipro) and Levofloxacin (Levaquin)

**Brand Name:** Cipro, Levaquin

**Generic Name:** ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin

**Drug Class:** Antibiotic/Quinolone

#### **What do these medications do?**

*Cipro and Levaquin are used to treat abscesses, fistulas, bacterial overgrowth in the intestine and pouchitis. They have antimicrobial activity (kill bacteria).*

#### **Possible Side Effects:**

*This medication is well tolerated by most people. If you have problems with less serious side effects, please talk with your doctor. Often, these side effects lessen and/or disappear with a decrease of dosage.*

- Diarrhea
- GI upset (nausea, abdominal discomfort)
- Joint or muscle pain

#### **Call your doctor immediately if you have any of these side effects:**

- Allergic reaction (Itching or hives, swelling in face or hands, swelling or tingling in the mouth or throat, tightness in chest, trouble breathing)
- Achilles' tendon pain or rupture
- Seizure (rare)

#### **Warning:**

- You should avoid this medication during pregnancy and breastfeeding
- This medicine may make your skin more sensitive to sunlight. Use a sunscreen when you are outdoors. Avoid sunlamps and tanning beds.
- Tell your doctor if you have a seizure disorder
- This medication may be taken with food but avoid dairy and iron products
- Maintain adequate hydration by increasing the amount of non-caffeinated beverages you drink daily
- Do not take with calcium supplements (TUMS, Caltrate, Citracal, Os-Cal, Pepsid Complete)
- Do not take with iron supplements (Feosol, Slow Fe, Fergon, multivitamins with iron)
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember

#### **Please tell your doctor if you take any of these medications:**

- Anticoagulants (Coumadin)
- Anticonvulsants (Phenytoin, Phenobarbitol)
- Theophylline (Theo24, Uniphyll)
- Oral hypoglycemic medications (especially Glyburide)
- Probenacid
- Cyclosporin