



## What is moxifloxacin?

Moxifloxacin belongs to a group of antibiotics called fluoroquinolones that work by killing bacteria. It is used to treat a sexually transmitted infection caused by a bacterium called mycoplasma genitalium. This infection often causes no symptoms but, if not treated, it can cause complications and serious long-term health problems.

## How should I take moxifloxacin?

When used to treat mycoplasma genitalium, ONE tablet of moxifloxacin is taken ONCE daily for 7-14 days. The tablets should be swallowed whole (to mask the bitter taste) with a glass of water. They can be taken with or without food. Try to take the tablet at approximately the same time each day.

You should avoid taking indigestion remedies or medicines containing iron or zinc either during the two hours before taking moxifloxacin, or during the two hours after you have taken a dose. This is because these interfere with the way moxifloxacin is absorbed by your body and stop it from working properly.

It is important that you complete the course of treatment even if your symptoms go away before you've finished it. If you stop taking the medicine too soon, your infection may not be completely cured and the infection may return, your condition may get worse and/or the bacteria causing your infection may become resistant to the medicine so it will no longer work.



## **What should I do if I miss a dose?**

Antibiotics such as moxifloxacin work best if there is a constant amount of the medicine in your body and it is important that you take it regularly as prescribed. However, should you forget to take a dose and remember before your next dose is due, you should take it as soon as you remember on the same day. However, if you don't remember until the following day or when your next dose is due, take the normal dose (one tablet); don't make up for the missed dose by taking a double dose.

## **Am I likely to experience side effects from moxifloxacin?**

Like all medicines, moxifloxacin may cause some side effects although not everybody gets them. The most common side effects include:

- Infections caused by resistant bacteria or fungi, e.g. oral and vaginal infections caused by Candida (thrush)
- Headache
- Dizziness
- Feeling or being sick
- Stomach and abdominal ache
- Diarrhoea
- Increase of a special liver enzyme in the blood (transaminases)
- Change of the heart rhythm in patients with low blood potassium level.



Fluoroquinolone antibiotics such as moxifloxacin have been reported to cause very rare, but serious, side effects involving tendons, muscles, joints and nerves. In a small proportion of patients these effects may lead to long-lasting, or permanent, disability.

**You should stop taking moxifloxacin and contact your iCaSH clinic immediately if you have the following signs of a side effect:**

- **Tendon pain or swelling, often beginning in the ankle or calf; if this happens, rest the painful area until you can see your clinician**
- **Pain in your joints or swelling in your shoulder, arms, or legs**
- **Abnormal pain or sensations (such as persistent pins and needles, tingling, tickling, numbness, or burning), weakness in your body, especially in the legs or arms, or difficulty walking**
- **Severe tiredness, depressed mood, anxiety, or problems with your memory or severe problems sleeping**
- **Changes in, your vision, taste, smell, or hearing**

Clinicians will take special care if you are older than 60 years of age, if your kidneys do not work well, you have had an organ transplant, and/or you take corticosteroid medication, such as prednisolone; this is because these groups of patients have a higher risk of these side effects.

Tell your clinician if you have had one of the above effects during, or shortly after, taking a fluoroquinolone medicine, such as ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin, ofloxacin or moxifloxacin, as this means you should avoid them in the future.

Please note that the list of side effects above is not exhaustive; should you feel you are experiencing any other side effects associated with moxifloxacin, please contact your local iCaSH clinic.



## **Can I take moxifloxacin with other medicines?**

If you are taking any other medicines, including any herbal or complementary/ supplementary medicines, or medicines bought 'over-the-counter', please ensure that you tell your clinician as moxifloxacin may interact with other medicines you are taking. This may reduce the effectiveness of, or increase the risk of side effects from, moxifloxacin or the other medicine(s) taken with it.

Of particular concern are:

- other medicines that affect your heart as there is an increased risk for altering your heart rhythm
- medicines taken to thin your blood (e.g. oral anti-coagulants such as warfarin)
- medicines that can lower your blood potassium levels (e.g. some diuretics, some laxatives and enemas in high doses)
- anti-inflammatory drugs such as corticosteroids

## **Can I take moxifloxacin if I am, or could be, pregnant or am breastfeeding?**

Moxifloxacin is not recommended if you are pregnant or breastfeeding, so please tell your clinician if you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant, or are planning to have a baby. You or your partner need to use a reliable form of contraception, for example, a condom, or a hormonal contraceptive, such as a pill, implant or injection, whilst taking moxifloxacin.

Since moxifloxacin passes into the mother's milk and may interfere with the development of your child's skeleton, you should not breastfeed while taking moxifloxacin.



### **Am I allergic to anything in the medicine?**

The ingredients of the tablets may vary depending on the brand you are issued so please check the manufacturer's information leaflet supplied with medicine to ensure that there are no ingredients that you are allergic to. Please tell your clinician if you have concerns regarding any intolerances or allergies.

### **How do I store moxifloxacin?**

Moxifloxacin does not require any special storage conditions. It should be stored in its original package in a safe place, out of the reach of children.

### **Is there anything else I need to know about moxifloxacin?**

Moxifloxacin can cause your skin to become more sensitive to light than normal. Avoid strong sunlight and sunbeds and use a sun cream with a high sun protection factor even on bright, but cloudy, days whilst taking moxifloxacin.



Notes



## For further information about this service contact:

**Telephone:** 0300 300 3030

**Visit our website:** [www.icash.nhs.uk/](http://www.icash.nhs.uk/)



Working in partnership with Terrence Higgins Trust.

If you require this information in a different format such as in large print or on audio tape, or in a different language please contact the service on the details above.

To find out how we use what we know about you (Privacy Notice) or how to access our buildings (AccessAble), please visit [www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk](http://www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk) and follow the links or please contact us.



If you have any compliments about this service or suggestions for improvements, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service on 0300 131 1000 (charges may apply depending on your network) or email: [ccs-tr.pals@nhs.net](mailto:ccs-tr.pals@nhs.net).

For free, confidential health advice and information 24 hours a day, 365 days a year please contact NHS 111.