

# DOXYCYCLINE

## PATIENT INFORMATION GUIDE



**Never give your medicines to others even if their symptoms are the same as yours.**

### WHY HAVE WE GIVEN YOU THIS GUIDE?

- This information is for you to use when taking doxycycline
- Doxycycline is an effective medicine for some skin conditions and infections
- Doxycycline can cause side effects so it is important that you know how to take it safely
- Talk to your doctor, pharmacist (chemist) or nurse if you have any questions

### THINGS YOU CAN DO TO TAKE DOXYCYCLINE SAFELY

- Doxycycline can cause severe indigestion if the tablets are not swallowed properly
- Swallow the tablets whole then drink a large glass of water to wash them down
- Take the tablets with or straight after food, so there is some food in your stomach
- Stay upright for 30 minutes after taking doxycycline; do not take it just before bed
- Let your doctor know if you have had any problems with your kidneys or liver
- Do not drink large amounts of alcohol

### ▶ DOXYCYCLINE CAN BE HARMFUL

- ▶ **Doxycycline must not be given to children because it can affect growing teeth and bones**
- ▶ **Always store doxycycline out of reach and out of sight of children**
- ▶ **Sunlight and doxycycline**
  - Avoid spending time in the sun or under sunlamps because doxycycline can cause a severe skin reaction
  - Let your doctor know if you notice a red rash or blisters on your skin
- ▶ **Let your doctor or pharmacist (chemist) know immediately if you:**
  - Notice a skin rash, fever, swelling, or other 'allergic-type' reaction
  - Have a sharp pain while swallowing, or pain in your throat or chest
  - Have a pulsing headache, ringing in the ears, or feel dizzy
- ▶ **Tell your doctor and pharmacist (chemist) about all of the medicines you are taking**  
Doxycycline can be harmful when taken with **some** other medicines
- ▶ **PREGNANCY and doxycycline**
  - If you become pregnant while taking doxycycline, let your doctor know so they can choose another medicine for you
  - If you are breastfeeding, let your doctor know; another medicine may be better for you