

## **LEVOFLOXACIN**

(LEE-vo-flox-a-sin)

### Instructions For Clients Taking Levofloxacin

**GENERIC NAME:** Levofloxacin

**COMMON BRAND NAME:** Levaquin

#### **REASON FOR TAKING THIS MEDICATION:**

- Levofloxacin is an antibiotic. It is used in combination with other medications to treat tuberculosis.

#### **PROPER USE OF THIS MEDICATION:**

- This medication can be taken with or without food.
- It is important that you keep taking this medication for the full time of the treatment or directed by your Physician even if you start to feel better.
- Do not miss a dose. If you miss a dose, take it as soon as possible. If it is almost time to take your next dose, do not take the missed dose, and do not take two doses at once.
- Avoid *excessive* exposure to sunlight or artificial ultraviolet light while you are taking levofloxacin.
- Tell your doctor if you have a history of epilepsy and/or convulsions. Convulsions have been reported in patients taking levofloxacin.
- Avoid products (for example, antacids) that contain iron, calcium, zinc or magnesium may interfere with the absorption of levofloxacin and may prevent it from working properly. Take levofloxacin at least 2 hours before or 2 hours after taking these products.
- Levofloxacin may increase the effect of anticoagulants. Speak to your doctor if you are taking an anticoagulant (blood thinner).
- Taking non-steroidal anti inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) is not recommended while taking levofloxacin.

ALL MEDICATIONS MAY CAUSE SOME UNDESIRABLE SYMPTOMS.

#### **NOTIFY YOUR PHYSICIAN IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS PERSIST:**

- nausea, diarrhea, stomach pain
- headache, dizziness
- indigestion
- restlessness
- insomnia

#### **HELPFUL HINTS:**

- Avoid regular use of alcohol. It may keep this medication from working well and damage your liver.
- Levofloxacin is not recommended for use during pregnancy or breastfeeding.
- Levofloxacin can disturb blood glucose levels in persons taking antidiabetic medications or insulin, giving either a lower or higher reading than normal. Monitor blood glucose levels closely.

KEEP ALL MEDICATIONS OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN.