

# DOXYCYCLINE

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Doxycycline is an antibiotic taken by mouth for the treatment of certain sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

## Allergies

- Tell your healthcare provider if you have an allergy to any tetracycline antibiotics such as tetracycline or minocycline

## Pregnancy and Breast/Chest Feeding

- Doxycycline is **not** safe to take during pregnancy.
- Doxycycline should be avoided during breast/chest feeding because of the unknown exposure effects to infants. Consult your healthcare provider.

## CAUTION

- Doxycycline can make your skin more sensitive to light and you may get a sunburn and/or tingling, numbness or unusual sensations in exposed areas. Avoid excessive exposure to sunlight or artificial UV rays (sunlamps or tanning beds). Use sunscreen and wear protective clothing if you will be out in the sun.
- Avoid using products containing calcium, aluminum, magnesium (commonly found in supplements and antacids) or bismuth subsalicylates (Pepto Bismol®) at the same time as doxycycline. Take doxycycline 2 hours before or 6 hours after taking these products.
- **Doxycycline has the potential to worsen symptoms of myasthenia gravis.** If you have myasthenia gravis (a neuromuscular disorder), please consult with your healthcare provider before taking doxycycline.
- Advise your healthcare provider if you have a history of yeast infections.
- **Drug Interactions:** Please note that individual drug interactions are no longer listed in this document. If you are taking any prescription, non-prescription, herbal, or recreational products, please discuss with your healthcare provider.

## Side Effects

- You may experience diarrhea, nausea, sudden and severe abdominal pain, vomiting, headache, skin rash, photosensitivity (increased sensitivity to the sun).

## Instructions for Taking

- Take medication with food to avoid stomach upset.
- Do not crush, chew, or open capsule.
- Swallow medication whole with a full glass of water and stand/sit upright for at least 30 minutes afterwards.
- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. However, if it is close to your next dose, skip the dose and resume your usual dosing time. Do not take a double dose.

## Storage Instructions

- Store at room temperature between 15°C and 30°C.
- Protect from light, heat, and moisture.
- Do not use medications beyond the labeled expiry date.
- Keep away from the reach of children.

## Special Instructions

- Do not have sex until:
  - One week after you have started your treatment, or as advised by your healthcare provider, AND
  - One week after any ongoing partners have started their treatment, even if their test results are negative.
- You will need retreatment if you have sex with an untreated partner, or if you have sex before either you or your partner's treatment is complete. Please discuss with your healthcare provider.

If you have any questions or need further information, please visit <http://www.smartsexresource.com> or contact your healthcare provider.