



## Ciprofloxacin (Ciloxan®) drops for infection

PLEASE READ BEFORE USING THE DROPS. KEEP IT SOMEWHERE SAFE SO YOU CAN READ IT AGAIN.

### Name of drug

**Ciprofloxacin drops** (sip-roh-flox-ass-in)

**Common brand:** Ciloxan®

### Why has my child been prescribed ciprofloxacin drops?

- Middle ear infections are common, painful infections in children. Germs multiply in the middle ear causing a build-up of pressure that stretches the ear drum. In around 1 in 7 children, the ear drum bursts, releasing a liquid (medical term: 'discharge') that can be seen coming out of the ear.
- While the hole in the ear drum is open it is important to start giving the ear drops as soon as possible on Day 1 (day of study entry) and then regularly (as your GP/nurse has explained) **each day for 7 days**.
- This will make sure that the antibiotic has a chance to kill the bacteria causing the infection.
- Most symptoms of ear infections improve or stop within **4 to 7 days** and the ear drops may help to shorten the time taken for your child's ear discharge to get better.
- Ciprofloxacin drops are often used to treat eye infections, but are safe to be used in the ears as well.

### How much and when to give the ciprofloxacin drops

- We would like you to give 4 drops x 3 times daily for 7 days:
  - > in the morning;
  - > in the early afternoon, e.g. straight after school;
  - > in the evening.
- Try to space these times out as evenly as possible.
- Give the drops at about the same time each day.
- The dose will be shown on the medicine label.
- **It is important that you follow the instructions on the medicine label about how much to give.**

### How to give the drops

- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and hot water.
- Shake the bottle.
- Wipe away any discharge that can easily be removed with a tissue before giving the drops.
- Your child needs to have their head tilted to one side (they could rest their head on a pillow) with the affected ear facing up. It may be easier to have your child lying down on their side if that is more comfortable.
- Put the tip of the dropper just inside the ear hole. Try to avoid touching the nozzle on to the ear. Gently squeeze the drop(s) into the ear.
- **Hint:** If you are finding it difficult to put the drops into the ear canal, it might help to gently pull the ear to open up

### the ear canal.

- Gently, but firmly and quickly, press on the flap of skin in front of the ear canal several times to help the drops go down the ear hole.
- Keep your child in the same position for a few minutes. This will help the drops to reach the ear drum.
- Wipe the nozzle with a clean tissue after each use.
- Do not put cotton wool (or anything else) into the ears during the 7 days of treatment.

### When will the ear drops start working?

- The drops will start to work straight away but it may take 2–3 days before your child starts to feel better.
- It is important that you give the whole course of drops that your doctor has prescribed, even when your child feels better. This is to make sure that all the bacteria are killed and the infection doesn't come back.

### What if my child is sick (vomits) after I give her/him the drops?

- You do not need to worry if your child is sick, as the drops will still work.
- If your child continues to vomit and you are concerned, please contact your GP or NHS 111 telephone service, for advice

### What if I forget to give it?

- Do not give the missed dose. Just give the next dose as usual.

### What if I give too much?

- It is unlikely that you will cause any harm if you give your child extra drops by mistake. Much higher doses are routinely given by mouth.
- If you are worried that you may have given your child too much, contact your doctor or local NHS 111 telephone service. Have the medicine or packaging with you if you telephone for advice.

### Are there any possible side-effects?

We use medicines to make our children better, but sometimes they have other effects that we don't want (side-effects).

### Very rare side-effects you must do something about

If your child is short of breath or is wheezing, or their face, lips or tongue start to swell, or they develop a rash, they may be allergic to ciprofloxacin. **STOP** using the drops. Take your child to hospital or call an ambulance **straight away**.



### Important things to know about taking antibiotics

- Try to give the medicine at about the same times each day, to help you remember, and to make sure that there is the right amount of medicine in your child's body to kill the bacteria.
- Only give this medicine to your child for their current infection that you have agreed to take part in the study for, and for **7 days only**.
- **Never save** medicine for future illnesses.



- Only give the antibiotic to the child for whom it was prescribed. Never give it to anyone else, even if their condition appears to be the same, as this could do harm.
- Antibiotics only kill bacteria; they do not kill viruses. This means that they do not work against colds, sore throats, flu or other infections that are caused by viruses. Your doctor will not prescribe antibiotics for these illnesses.

### Other side-effects you need to know about

- Your child may develop a rash or itching in the ear(s) while using the drops. This will stop when the course of treatment is finished. If it is a problem, contact your doctor for advice.
- There may, sometimes, be other side-effects that are not listed above. If you notice anything unusual and are concerned, contact your doctor **and** the REST study team (**07778 7666502**).

### Remember

- Keep the drops in a cupboard, away from children, heat and direct sunlight - **do not** keep in the fridge.
- Keep the drops in the container they come in.
- Try to keep your child's ears dry during the time they are having the drops, especially at bathtime.
- If you have any questions about how to use the medicine, contact the REST study team on **0778 7666502** or email **rest-trial@bristol.ac.uk**
- The study is not intended to replace your child's usual medical care. If you have concerns about your child's illness, please contact your GP or NHS 111 in the usual way.

### Can other medicines be given at the same time as ciprofloxacin drops?

- You can give your child medicines that contain paracetamol or ibuprofen to help treat any pain or high temperature, unless your doctor has told you not to. Always follow the dosing instructions on the packaging or from your doctor.
- Check with your doctor or pharmacist **before** giving any other medicines to your child, including herbal or complementary medicines. However, most medicines can be given safely while using ciprofloxacin drops.

### What to do if your child's symptoms get worse

- Contact your doctor or local NHS 111 telephone service if your child does not appear to be getting better after a few days or if they have any of the following symptoms:-
  - > increasing pain
  - > high temperatures
  - > headaches
  - > irritability
  - > or reduced feeding (particularly if your child is under 2 years old).
- These drops are intended for use in the ear for which the doctor or nurse prescribed them at your REST study appointment. If your child's other ear starts to hurt or you see discharge do not use the ear drops in this ear. Contact your GP surgery and also the Trial Research Nurse (**0778 7666502** or email **rest-trial@bristol.ac.uk**).



the runny ear study