

## Cyclosporine

### General Information

Cyclosporine is an oral immunosuppressant medication used for rapid clearance of psoriasis and atopic dermatitis. Historically, it has been used to prevent transplantation rejection in humans.

### What should I expect with treatment?

#### BEFORE STARTING:

- If you have a history of kidney disease, high blood pressure, or malignancy (cancer), this medication may be contraindicated. Please speak with your doctor first.
- We will check your blood pressure, weight, and comprehensive labs, including complete blood count, blood chemistry, kidney and liver function, lipid panel, HIV screen, hepatitis screen, TB screen, and pregnancy test (if indicated).

Total treatment course may range from 1 month to 12 months. Average is 3-6 months, and maximum course is 12 months. You will be expected to have office visits and lab draws periodically during this time frame. This medication must be gradually tapered. Please DO NOT stop the medication abruptly without speaking to your doctor first.

### Side Effects

- Cyclosporine has the potential to cause side effects, especially on the kidneys. Therefore, we closely monitor blood pressure, blood tests, kidney function tests, and medical findings related to kidney function.
- Liver changes rarely occur with cyclosporine but may include increased blood levels of the liver enzymes. Thus, only moderate alcohol intake is allowed while you are on cyclosporine. Levels of uric acid may increase and may provoke flares of gout. Please tell us if you have a history of gout.
- Adverse reactions such as tremor, increased hair growth, acne, and excessive growth of the gums may also occur. There is also potential increase in skin tumors and, less frequently, other tumors.

You will be very carefully followed by the physicians and staff in our practice to monitor any potential side effects, both by examination, as well as by evaluation of laboratory test results.

### Your Cyclosporine Dose:

\_\_\_\_\_ capsule/s in the morning and \_\_\_\_\_ capsule/s in the evening with food.

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### For children:

\_\_\_\_\_ mls in the morning and \_\_\_\_\_ mls in the evening mixed in a small amount of applesauce or juice.

## DRUG INTERACTION WITH CYCLOSPORINE

Allopurinol  
Amiodarone  
Amphotericin (Fungizone)  
Azapropazone  
Bromocriptine (Parlodel)  
Carbamazepine (Atretol, Tegretol)  
Cimetidine (Tagamet)

### **Clarithromycin (Biaxin)**

Colchicine  
Corticosteroids  
Danazol (Danocrine, Dalfopristin)  
Diclofenac (Voltaren)  
Digoxin (Lanoxin, Lanoxicaps)  
Diltiazem (Cartizem, Dilacor)  
Dopamine (Intropin)  
Erythromycin (Emycin, Eryc, PCE, Ilosone, EES, Eryped, Erytab, Ketek)

### **Fluconazole (Diflucan)**

Furosemide (Lasix)  
Gentamicin (Garamycin, G-myticin)  
Heparin (Hep-lock)  
Isoniazid (INH)  
Itraconazole (Sporanox)  
Ketoconazole (Nizoral)  
Ketek (Telithromycin)  
Lovastatin (Mevacor)  
Melphalan (Alkeran)  
Methylpredisonone (Medrol, Depo-Medrol)  
Metoclopramide (Reglan)  
Naficillin  
Naproxen  
Norfloxin (Chibroxin, Noroxin)  
NSAIDs (Advil, Motrin, Nuprin, Aleve, Ibuprofen etc...) – These are ok to take in **moderation- prefer Tylenol**  
Octreotide  
Orilissa  
Orlistat  
Oral contraceptives  
Phenobarbitol (Arco-lase, Quadrinal, Antrocel, Mudrane, Rexatal, Bellergal, Donnatal, Kinesed, Solfoton)  
Phenytoin (Dilantin)  
Quinupristin

### **Ranitidine (Zantac)**

Rifampin (Rifadin, Rifamate, Rimactane)  
St. John's Wart Remover  
Sulfamethoxazole/Trimethoprim (Bactrim, Septra)  
Sulindac  
Tacrolimus  
Ticlopidine  
Tobramycin (Tobradex, Tobrex, Nebcin)  
Vancomycin (Vancocin, Cancoled)  
Verapamil (Calan, Isoptin, Verelan)  
Zofran

\*\*\* **AVOID GRAPEFRUIT and GRAPEFRUIT JUICE**

\*\*\* **NO LIVE VIRUS VACCINATION**

\*\*\* **DO NOT DONATE BLOOD**

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**BLOOD PRESSURE LOG**

|                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| B/P _____ Date: _____ | B/P _____ Date: _____ |
| B/P _____ Date: _____ | B/P _____ Date: _____ |
| B/P _____ Date: _____ | B/P _____ Date: _____ |
| B/P _____ Date: _____ | B/P _____ Date: _____ |
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| B/P _____ Date: _____ | B/P _____ Date: _____ |
| B/P _____ Date: _____ | B/P _____ Date: _____ |
| B/P _____ Date: _____ | B/P _____ Date: _____ |

Average blood pressure for patients ages 10 and up is **120/80**

Average blood pressure for children ages 6 to 9 is **97/57**

Average blood pressure for children ages 2 to 5 is **89/46**

The best time to take your blood pressure is first thing after waking up in the morning.

It is important to take your blood pressure around the same time every day.

Please contact the office if the BP reading are higher than **160/100** for more than 3 consecutive days.