

# Doxy<sup>®</sup>

## DOXYCYCLINE CAPSULES

### COMPOSITION:

#### Each capsule contains:

Doxycycline Hyclate BP equivalent to Doxycycline 100mg.

### PHARMACOLOGY:

Doxy<sup>®</sup> capsules contain Doxycycline, a tetracycline with bacteriostatic properties against a wide range of bacteria. It is used in the treatment of chlamydial, rickettsial, mycoplasmal, protozoal, and some spirochaetal infections, as well as in infections due to Gram-positive and Gram-negative pathogens.

Doxycycline is readily and almost completely absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract and absorption is not significantly affected by the presence of food in the stomach or duodenum.

The preparation has a lower affinity for binding with calcium, causes less tooth discolouration, and does not appear to accumulate in patients with renal failure compared to other tetracyclines.

On oral administration, doxycycline is readily absorbed and is widely distributed in the body tissues and fluids and its plasma half-life varies from about 15 to 25 hours.

It is taken up into sensitive bacterial cells by an active transport process where it binds reversibly to the 30S subunit of the ribosome, preventing the binding of aminoacyl transfer RNA and inhibiting protein synthesis and hence cell growth.

### INDICATIONS:

Doxy<sup>®</sup> capsules are indicated in the treatment of a wide range of systemic, gastrointestinal, respiratory, urogenital and local infections caused by, or associated with pathogens sensitive to doxycycline therapy. It is preferred to other tetracyclines in the treatment of sensitive infections because of its fairly reliable absorption and its long half-life which permits less frequent (often once daily) dosage. It also has the advantage that it can be given (with care) to patients with renal insufficiency.

Doxy<sup>®</sup> capsules are used in the treatment of ehrlichiosis, typhus, spotted fever, trench fever, Q-fever, psittacosis, lymphogranuloma venereum, trachoma, non-gonococcal urethritis, chlamydial conjunctivitis, pharyngitis, sinusitis, pneumonia, melioidosis, actinomycosis, bronchitis, gastro-enteritis, granuloma inguinale, leptospirosis, syphilis, anthrax, travellers' diarrhoea and balantidiasis.

### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Doxy<sup>®</sup> capsules are administered by the oral route with plenty of fluid, and with the patient in an upright position. It may be given with food or milk if gastric irritation occurs. Relatively high doses may be required for urinary-tract infections because of its low renal excretion.

**Dose: Adults** : 200mg initially as a single dose, followed by 100mg daily

In severe infections, administer 200mg daily.

In patients with sensitive gonococcal infections doxycycline has occasionally been given in a single dose of 300mg, alone or followed by a second similar dose one hour later.

**Dose: Children** : 4mg per kg body weight initially followed by 2mg per kg body weight daily for children weighing 50kgs or less, but the effect of tetracyclines on teeth and bones should be considered.

### PRECAUTIONS, WARNINGS AND SIDE-EFFECTS:

1. Doxy<sup>®</sup> capsules are contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to tetracyclines.
2. Prolonged use of the preparation may result in overgrowth of non-susceptible pathogens, including fungi and in such cases appropriate medication should be instituted immediately.
3. Doxy<sup>®</sup> capsules may cause oesophageal ulceration if taken with insufficient fluid or in a recumbent posture, thus it should be taken with at least half a glass of water, one hour or more before retiring to bed.
4. The common side effects occasionally associated with the preparation, include gastrointestinal disturbances, skin reactions, and deposition in developing bones and teeth.

### INTERACTIONS:

In general the absorption of tetracyclines is reduced by divalent and trivalent cations such as aluminium, bismuth, calcium, iron, magnesium and zinc and therefore concomitant administration of the drugs with antacids and iron preparations should be avoided. Tetracyclines including doxycycline may decrease the effectiveness of oral contraceptives and alternative methods of contraception is advisable in women receiving therapy. Because of possible antagonism of the action of the penicillins by predominantly bacteriostatic tetracyclines, it is recommended that the two types of antibiotics should not be given concomitantly, especially when a rapid bactericidal action is necessary.

The half-life of doxycycline may be shortened from 16 to 7 hours in patients receiving long-term treatment with barbiturates or phenytoin.

**LEGAL CATEGORY:** Prescription Only Medicines (POM)

**THERAPEUTIC CATEGORY:** ATC JO1A (systemic antibiotics – Tetracyclines)

**STORAGE CONDITIONS:** Store in a dry place below 30°C. Protect from light. Keep all medicines out of reach of children

**SHELF LIFE:** As per the product label.

**PRESENTATION:** Green/Green size '2' hard gelatin capsules containing a yellow powder, in blisters of 10's packed in 100's; and in polythene bags packed in high density plastic containers of 100's, 500's and 1000's.

**LAST DATE OF REVIEW** : July 2017

**LICENSE HOLDER** : LABORATORY & ALLIED LTD.



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