



DERMATOLOGY
ASSOCIATES OF ITHACA
Healthier Skin Since 1983

DID YOU KNOW?

Ultraviolet rays from the sun are still damaging the skin during the winter and on cloudy days. Use a facial moisturizer with SPF 15 or higher on a daily basis.



Central NY receives about 75% of San Diego's UV exposure, and Tompkins County ranks 8th highest in melanoma in NYS.



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MINOCYCLINE

Minocycline is a tetracycline antibiotic that fights bacteria in the body. Minocycline is used to treat many different types of bacterial infections such as respiratory infections, skin infections, severe acne, tick fever and others not listed here.

PROPER USE

- If you are taking this medication twice a day, take one pill in the morning and one in the evening, about 12 hours apart. If this schedule doesn't work well for you, take the pills at least 8 hours apart.
 - What happens if I miss a dose? Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next scheduled dose. Do not take extra medication to make up the missed dose.
- Minocycline should be taken with a full glass of water and can be taken with or without food.
- Do not take iron supplements, multivitamins, calcium supplements, antacids or laxatives within two hours of taking minocycline. These products may decrease the effectiveness of minocycline.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Most people have no adverse side effects while taking this medication. The possible side effects are listed below:

- When starting this medication you may have minor stomach upset, headache, and/or dizziness.
- If you are taking this medication for an extended amount of time (1-2 years or more), it can cause subtle bluish-black discoloration; often occurring on the lower legs, inside the mouth and in old acne scars. It is important to watch closely for this. If this occurs, the medication should be stopped. The discoloration will slowly go away over time.
- Minocycline makes your skin more sensitive to sunlight and severe sunburns can occur. Avoid tanning booths and sunlamps. Limit your sun exposure, especially between 10 AM – 4 PM, and apply a sunscreen daily. Choose a broad spectrum sunscreen that protects from both UVA and UVB and has SPF 30 or higher.
- If you become pregnant, stop minocycline immediately as it may discolor the teeth and delay bone growth of a developing baby. You should call the office to discuss alternative options.
- Some women develop vaginal yeast infections while taking antibiotics. This can be treated with over-the-counter medications or a prescription oral medicine. If this becomes a recurrent problem, a change in medication may be necessary. You should call the office to discuss alternative options.
- Rarely, side effects that are more serious are possible. Always report fever, joint pain, rash, yellow skin, blurred vision, persistent headache, or chest pain when taking this drug.
- Always read the package insert for complete information. Call if you experience any unusual symptoms or develop new health problems. Inform other health care providers that you are taking minocycline.