

Warning: Dangerous Class of Antibiotics = Fluoroquinolones (FQs)

GENERIC NAME	BRAND NAME	ORAL	INTRAVENOUS	EYE or EAR DROPS
Ciprofloxacin	Cipro, Proquin XR	Yes	No	Cipro HC, Ciloxan
Levofloxacin	Levaquin	Yes	Yes	Quixin
Moxifloxacin	Avelox, Avalox, Avelon	Yes	Yes	Vigamox, Moxeza
Gemifloxacin	Factive	Yes	No	No
Ofloxacin	None	No	No	Floxin Otic, Ocuflox
Norfloxacin	Noroxin	Yes	No	Chibroxin
Gatifloxacin	None	No	No	Zymar, Zymaxid

Go to PBS News Hour online and search for “Certain Antibiotics Spur Widening Reports of Severe Side Effects.” This was on PBS NEWS HOUR on June 16, 2011.

In 2008, the FDA required seven fluoroquinolone (FQ) antibiotics to add a black-box warning because they pose a risk of tendinitis, but the consumer rarely sees or is told about the Black Box warnings. Unfortunately, there are far worse risks than tendinitis which the FDA hasn't yet recognized. FQs were originally developed as last case resort antibiotics to be used against life threatening infections such as anthrax; not for minor infections. Now FQs are casually prescribed for urinary, ear, sinus, prostate and respiratory infections. Most doctors are convinced by the pharmaceutical companies that these antibiotics are harmless, so it is difficult to convince them of the severe damage these drugs have done. If your doctor prescribes one of these drugs, ask for something different.

FQs are chemotherapeutic antibiotics. **They kill bacteria by attacking its DNA. The problem is that FQs cannot distinguish between our good DNA and the bacteria's DNA.** Therefore, they produce DNA damage throughout a person's body. Thousands of people have suffered long- term severe damage to their peripheral and central nervous systems, tendons, ligaments, soft tissue, muscles, as well as psychiatric disorders, vision and hearing loss. The effects can be severely disabling, painful, and long lasting. There are safer antibiotics to take for minor infections.

In some cases, people have taken only 1 to 3 tablets total and the devastation has started quickly and continued for months to years after discontinuing the drug. Absolutely DO NOT take any STEROIDS or ANTI-INFLAMMATORIES nor do any intense exercise if you have taken any of these drugs recently. Exercising or combining steroids or anti-inflammatory such as Ibuprofen with FQs will make symptoms worse and increase the chance of rupturing tendons.

Reactions to FQs can be delayed for months after ingestion, and can occur after the 2nd or 3rd prescription given, even if there are years in between the first and subsequent prescriptions. You may experience popping of joints, burning or stabbing pains throughout the body, gastrointestinal problems, vision problems, involuntary muscle twitching, debilitating leg pain, muscle wasting, and weakness in legs and arms. Some have lost the ability to walk or stand for more than a few minutes at a time. Many are experiencing anxiety, depression, and prolonged insomnia as a result of the severe nervous system damage caused by these drugs. People have died from even small doses of these antibiotics.

See these websites for more complete information:

www.saferpills.org

<http://levaquinhurtme.weebly.com>

www.medicationsense.com

www.myquinstory.info and www.ciproispoison.com