# HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE (for malaria)

*hye-drox-ee-klor-oh-kwin*

## What does it do?

*Hydroxychloroquine* is used to prevent and treat malaria.

## Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have heart, kidney, blood, muscle or hearing problems, vision or eye problems, or have diabetes, psoriasis, or G6PD deficiency.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

## How should you take it?

Take *hydroxychloroquine* regularly as directed. Take it with food and a glass of water.

## What if you forget a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as possible.

## Can you take other medicines?

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

## What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects | Recommended action |
|---|---|
| Reduced number of blood cells that fight infections or help your blood to clot - symptoms include: fever, chills, sore throat or generally feeling unwell, or easy or unusual bruising or bleeding<br>Changes in vision<br>Hearing loss, ringing in the ears<br>Numbness or tingling of the fingers or toes<br>Muscle weakness | Tell your doctor immediately |
| Skin rash, itching<br>Low blood sugar: symptoms may include sweating, trembling, feeling anxious or irritable<br>Stomach upset | Tell your doctor |

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

## Other information:

- Protect yourself from too much sunlight while being treated with *hydroxychloroquine*. Always cover up and apply a thick layer of broad spectrum sunscreen (at least SPF 30) when outside. Do not use sunbeds.