



## *Minocycline*

Minocycline is an oral antibiotic related to tetracycline and doxycycline. It is probably our most potent antibiotic for acne. Red bumps, pustules, and cysts often respond well to minocycline. It causes less sun sensitivity than the other acne medications in this group.

### ***Instructions for Use:***

When possible, follow directions given to you by the pharmacist. However, if it bothers your stomach you may take it with food.

### ***Side Effects:***

Occasional:

- stomach discomfort
- sun sensitivity
- dizziness
- headache
- drug interactions (*let other doctors know you are taking minocycline*)

Rare:

- gray/blue darkening of the skin or teeth (may be in old acne scars, or even in patches on legs)
- liver problems
- lupus-like syndrome (flu symptoms, aching joints)
- allergic syndrome with lung irritation
- hypersensitivity syndrome (form of allergic reaction with fever, enlarged lymph nodes)

*(Although rare, skin discoloration and lupus-like syndrome most often occur a couple of years after continuous minocycline use. Liver and lung problems and hypersensitivity syndrome most often occur within two months of starting minocycline.)*

### **Side Effects in WOMEN only:**

- Minocycline and other antibiotics may decrease the effectiveness of birth control pills in some women. A second method of contraception is recommended if you are concerned about avoiding pregnancy. (If your minocycline were to cause vomiting or diarrhea, there is even more of a risk of birth control pill failure.)
- Teeth discoloration may occur in babies of women who take minocycline while pregnant. Discontinue this drug if you become pregnant.

### ***For Questions or Emergency Care:***

Call the office at **601-815-3374**. You may need to speak with the doctor on-call.