

Medicines Information for Children with Cystic Fibrosis  
The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne

## **Flucloxacillin**

*Flopen, Floxapen, Floxsig, Staphylex 250mg and 500mg capsules*

*Flophen, Floxapen 25mg/mL and 50mg/mL mixture*

*Other brands may be available.*

### **What does it do?**

A penicillin antibiotic used to prevent and treat staphylococcal infections in the lungs.

### **How is it taken?**

**Flucloxacillin is usually taken either TWO times a day (preventative dose) or FOUR times a day (treatment dose), one hour before food with a glass of water.** However, if it causes stomach upset, or is difficult to swallow due to taste, then it may be given with food.

Your doctor will decide how long you or your child should continue taking flucloxacillin.

If you forget to give a dose, give the missed dose as soon as you remember, then give the next dose at the time it is normally due. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to. Do not try to make up for missed doses by giving more than one dose at a time. The mixture should be shaken well before being given

### **Where do I get it?**

May be dispensed by your **local pharmacy** on presentation of a valid PBS prescription written by your local doctor or a doctor at RCH.

May be dispensed at the **RCH pharmacy** department on presentation of a valid RCH PBS prescription written by a doctor at RCH.

**Please note:** A special authority number may be required for this medication, depending on the quantity and duration of treatment

### **How do I store it?**

All medicines should be stored out of the reach of children.

Capsules should be stored at room temperature (below 25° C) away from humidity. Capsules should be kept in the pack until it is time to take them.

The mixture should be kept in the fridge. The mixture expires 7 or 14 days after it is made up – check with your pharmacist.

### **What side effects may I experience?**

All medicines can cause some side effects. If they occur, most are likely to be minor and temporary. However, some may be serious. Check with your doctor as soon as possible if you think you or your child is experiencing any side effects or allergic reactions from this medicine that are troublesome or ongoing, even if the problem is not listed below. Some side effects can occur if you take this medicine with certain other medicines, including over-the-counter or herbal medicines. Always tell your pharmacist about any medicines you or your child are taking.

**Some of the side effects that may occur include:**

Nausea, vomiting, stomach upset, diarrhoea or loose bowel motions, oral or vaginal thrush.

**Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you notice any of the following:**

Watery, severe diarrhoea, blood in the stools, severe stomach cramps, tiredness, headaches, increased shortness of breath, dizziness and looking pale, bleeding or bruising more easily than normal, symptoms of frequent infections such as fever, chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers, yellowing of the eyes or skin (jaundice), painful, swollen joints, aching muscles, muscle tenderness or weakness not caused by exercise, dark, cloudy or bloody urine.

**Stop using this medicine and contact a doctor or emergency department if signs of an allergic reaction occur. These may include:**

An unexplained increase in wheezing, difficulty breathing or swallowing, fainting, swelling of the lips or tongue, severe itchy rash (hives).

The information contained in this leaflet is intended to support not replace discussion with your doctor or health care professionals.

ASK YOUR PHARMACIST ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE ABOUT THIS MEDICINE

For further information, contact The Royal Children's Hospital Drug Information Centre on 03 9345 5208.

The authors of these medicine information handouts have made considerable effort to ensure the information is accurate, up to date and easily understood.

The Royal Children's Hospital accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracies, information perceived as misleading, or the success of any treatment regimen detailed in the handouts.