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Cyclosporine Patient Information

Although cyclosporine is in general a safe and very effective medication when used appropriately and with proper monitoring, it is important that you review and understand the potential risks of cyclosporine treatment. We additionally recommend that you review the medication insert prior to starting your medication and with each refill as new side effects and/or warnings can be added by the manufacturer during your treatment course.

You should not take cyclosporine if you have a known allergy to cyclosporine, uncontrolled hypertension, abnormal kidney function, or a history of a malignancy. Some of the more common potential (although still relatively rare) adverse reactions with cyclosporine include hypertension, edema or swelling, headaches, hypertrichosis (or excess hair growth), elevated cholesterol, nausea, gum hyperplasia, renal and liver dysfunction, increased risk of infections, and the potential for secondary malignancies associated with chronic immunosuppression.

Cyclosporine additionally requires ongoing lab monitoring which will be coordinated through your office visits. We additionally recommend that you monitor your blood pressure (2-3 times weekly), keep a log, and notify the clinic if your blood pressure exceeds 140/90. It is also important that you not start any new medications without first confirming with your doctor or pharmacist that there are no drug interactions that could be harmful.

Thank you !