

**FLUOROQUINOLONES**  
**Levofloxacin, Ciprofloxacin, Ofloxacin**  
**Fact Sheet**

These are complex molecules related to the urinary antiseptic nalidixic acid. They are broad spectrum antibiotics.

Doses:	Levofloxacin – 500 mg daily Ofloxacin – 800 mg daily Ciprofloxacin – 500-750 mg twice a day Alter dosage with impaired renal function.
Administration:	Oral or IV
Excretion:	Levofloxacin and Ofloxacin – renal Ciprofloxacin – hepatic/ renal
Distribution:	Good tissue concentration including bone; poor-moderate CSF penetration

**Adverse Reactions**

Gastrointestinal

1. Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea reported commonly. Minor abnormalities in liver enzymes also reported.

Neurotoxicity

1. Tremors, restlessness, light-headedness and confusion may occur. More serious reactions, such as seizures and psychosis may also occur.

Other

1. Pseudomembranous colitis, thrombophlebitis and crystalluria.

**Drug Interactions**

1. Ciprofloxacin increases serum concentration of theophylline, warfarin and caffeine. These reactions have also been reported rarely with levofloxacin.
2. Ciprofloxacin increases serum creatinine in patients on cyclosporine.
3. Absorption of both is reduced by medications containing Al, Mg, Fe and Ca.
4. Concomitant use of NSAIDS may increase risk of CNS reactions.

**Monitoring**

1. Theophylline concentration and pro time should be monitored in patients on theophylline and warfarin.
2. Creatinine or liver enzymes in patients with renal or hepatic dysfunction.