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INFORMATION ON ORAL DIFLUCAN

What is Diflucan?

- Diflucan (Fluconazole) is an anti-fungal medication
- It belongs to a class of drugs known as the 'azole antifungals'
- It is known by generic names such as fluconazole

What is the dose or oral Diflucan?

- A variety of doses may be prescribed.
- In our clinic, we commonly use it to prevent vaginal yeast infections in women who have recurrent yeast infections. About 5 % of women have recurrent yeast infections and some medications (like doxycycline) make this much worse
- The dose to prevent infections is 150 mg every 72 hours for three doses and then once weekly
- This dose can reduce infections by over 90 %

Other doses may include the following:

- 150 mg PO as a single dose
- 150 mg PO every 72 hours for 3 doses
- 150 mg PO daily for 10-14 days followed by 150 mg once weekly for 6 months

What the side effects of Diflucan?

- Headaches (about 10%)
- Nausea and Vomiting (5%)
- Abdominal pain (5%)
- Diarrhea (2%)
- Rash (2%)



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Less common side effects include

- Liver irritation
- Serious rashes
- Dizziness
- Change in taste
- Heart rhythm changes

Are there any possible drug interactions with Diflucan?

- There are many interactions
- If you take ANY medication, please advise Dr. Donovan. Diflucan may or may not be appropriate

Who should not use Diflucan?

- Women who are pregnant or breastfeeding
- Individual allergic to azole antifungals
- Individuals with liver or kidney disease (may need dose change)
- Individuals with diabetes or lactose sensitivity may need alternate types of formulations made

SOURCES: Sobel, J. *New England Journal of Medicine*, Aug. 26, 2004; vol. 351: pp 876-883