Dermatology Associates of West Texas, LLP

For questions or an appointment, call (806)797-1202

**Minocycline** is a tetracycline-like <u>antibiotic</u> that also has <u>anti-inflammatory</u> properties. In other words – it helps fight the bacteria that promote acne or skin infections — and reduces the inflammation that causes damage to your skin. This is usually well tolerated with minimal side effects.

## **How to Take:**

- -Minocycline should ideally be taken on an empty stomach, at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after meals.
- -Drink a full (8 oz.) glass of water with each dose and do not lay down for at least 30 minutes (to avoid esophagitis/esophageal ulcers.
- -If you do take it with food, try to avoid antacids, milk and dairy products. You may experience some mild stomach upset and loose stool at first (but this should improve over time.
- -Taking pro-biotics (beneficial bacteria- acidophilus) in the form of a capsule or in yogurt is helpful.

Adverse reactions can occur. Any medication can cause any type of side effect – so call if you experience any unusual symptoms. Stop the medication and notify the Doctor if you have any of the following:

Persistent headache: (Rarely minocin can cause **Pseudotumor Cerebri which manifests as severe headaches** or vision change)

Blurred vision or vision change

Allergic reactions such as widespread rash or hives (whelps)

Blue-Grey discoloration of the skin or gums

Dizziness, nausea, vomiting

Yeast infections (mouth or vaginal)

Abdominal pain, Nausea, decreased appetite

Diarrhea (chronic), bleeding in your stool

Signs of infection: fever, chills, sore throat

Unusual bleeding or bruising

Joint pain or swelling

Persistent fatigue/tiredness

## **Special issues:**

- \*Be careful in the sun or in tanning beds as it can induce **photosensitivity**.
- \*You should **not take minocin if you are pregnant, nursing** or have a history of allergy to tetracycline antibiotics.
- \* Minocin may (theoretically) decrease the effectiveness of the birth control pill to a small degree.
- \* You should not take minocin when you are on other antibiotics.

NOTE: This is not a comprehensive information sheet. If you desire complete drug information, contact the pharmacist or refer to the "package insert".