

## Patient information: Skin infections - Flucloxacillin

**Treatment:** Flucloxacillin 500mg four times daily for seven days.

- Take regularly and complete the course
- Take this medicine when your stomach is empty. This means an hour before food or 2 hours after food
- If symptoms worsen, or you develop a temperature or start vomiting then seek medical advice that day
- Possible side effects may include an upset stomach or diarrhoea. This is normal and does not mean you should stop treatment unless this becomes severe.
- If rash or other signs of hypersensitivity occur, stop taking the medicine and contact your doctor for advice
- If symptoms have not improved after 7 days treatment, seek further medical advice
- Paracetamol and Ibuprofen may be taken if required for pain
- Drink plenty of water / non caffeinated fluids

### **Advice:**

#### **Cellulitis**

- Raise the affected area if possible using pillows or a chair when sitting or lying down

#### **Infected Insect bites**

- A cold compress and antihistamine tablets may help to reduce swelling
- Do not scratch the area (keep children's fingernails short and clean)

#### **Infected Nail (Paronychia)**

During treatment and to prevent recurrence:

- Wash feet regularly and dry after bathing/showering
- Change socks regularly and ensure shoes/socks/tights fit properly
- Ensure nails are cut regularly (cut straight rather than at an angle) to stop them digging into the surrounding skin
- Gently push the skin away from the nail using a cotton bud (this may be easier after using a small amount of olive oil to soften the skin)