

# Chloroquine

[CLOR-oh-kwin]  
Aralen®

<http://Rheuminfo.com>  
your rheumatology resource

## How to use this medication

### What is it



Chloroquine is a medication used to treat different types of arthritis. While taking this medicine it is important to have your eyes checked at least once a year.

### Take it every day



This medicine is taken once a day.

### Tablets



It only comes in 250 mg tablets. The usual dose is one tablet per day (250 mg).

### Be patient



It will take 8 to 12 weeks for the medicine to work. It is important for you to keep taking the medicine.

## What you need to do

### Get your eyes checked



Have your eyes checked by an eye doctor at least once a year. This is to make sure the medicine isn't affecting the back of the eye.

## Side effects & important facts

### Nausea & diarrhea



Chloroquine agrees with most people. Rarely it can cause an upset stomach or diarrhea.

### Skin rash or itching



Chloroquine can rarely cause a rash or itchiness. Stop the medicine and let your doctor know if you develop a rash or become itchy. This is rare.

### Headaches



Chloroquine can rarely cause a headache.

### Sun sensitive



Chloroquine can sometimes make the skin more sensitive to the sun. Wear sunscreen.

## When should I call my doctor

### Please call if you need to stop



- If you feel sick and want to stop
- If you are concerned about any side effects
- If you want to or have already stopped the medicine

### Other reasons to call your doctor:



Rash or Itching



Feeling Sick



Ringing in the ears

## Other important information

### Stopping chloroquine



You can simply stop taking chloroquine. You do not need to wean off it. Please call your doctor if you stop the medication.