

# Hydroxychloroquine (Plaquenil)

## What do the tablets look like?

Hydroxychloroquine tablets are 200mg strength and coloured orange.

## Why are you taking Hydroxychloroquine?

Hydroxychloroquine belongs to the group of medicines known as 'disease-modifying' or 'second line agents' that are used to treat arthritis and inflammatory disease. It suppresses the disease process by reducing the activity of the immune system.

As it is not a 'pain reliever' you will not notice any benefit straight away and it may take four to six weeks to see an improvement in your symptoms. The full effect may take up to

## Can you take other medicines and alcohol?

Antacids, such as magnesium trisilicate mixture, should not be taken at the same time as Hydroxychloroquine. Allow at least four hours between taking Hydroxychloroquine and

## Further information

If you need more information, or have any problems or have any queries about your medication, please contact your GP or ring:

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## PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)