Malaria Chemoprophylaxis for the Overseas Traveler

Using Aralen

Indication:

Aralen alone is recommended for travel to areas of risk where chloroquine-resistant P. falciparum has NOT been reported.

Medication: Aralen (chloroquine phosphate) 500 mg tablets.

Precautions:

- Not given to persons with known hypersensitivity to chloroquine.
- Not given to persons with certain medical conditions:
  1. severe diseases of the eye, with damage to the retina;
  2. persons with psoriasis, where chloroquine may precipitate acute attacks.
- Used with caution in persons with certain medical conditions:
  1. persons with liver disease or alcoholism;
  2. persons taking other medications which may be toxic to the liver, such as sulfa drugs;
  3. persons with the rare disorder of the red blood cells called G-6-PD (glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase) deficiency.

Directions:

Single tablet, given by mouth, should be taken weekly, starting 1 week before travel. Prophylaxis should be continued weekly during travel in malarious areas and for 4 weeks after a person leaves such areas.

START _____________________   END ______________________

Note: Swallow tablet immediately to avoid bitter taste. May be taken with meals.

Adverse Reactions:

Side effects are rare in persons who have no known contra-indications to the drug.
Stomach upset and vomiting may occur.
Other side reactions are extremely rare to non-existent at the low dose given for the prevention of malaria.
If any of the following reactions occur, contact a physician or health service immediately: skin rash, swelling of arms, hands, etc., blurring of vision, dizziness, headaches.

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