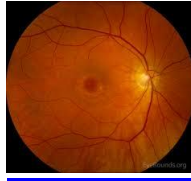


[Hydroxychloroquine Prescriber Information Sheet Available on LMMG](#)



Prescribing tip for information

The Lancashire Medicines Management Group (LMMG) has produced a [Prescriber Information Sheet](#) for **hydroxychloroquine** for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, discoid and systemic lupus erythematosus, and dermatological conditions caused or aggravated by sunlight in adults, to be read in conjunction with the [SPC](#). This contains information on:

- Dosage and administration
- Monitoring
- Contraindications
- Cautions for use
- Side-effects
- Drug interactions
- Referral form for the ophthalmology service for hydroxychloroquine screening

Retinopathy screening:

The [Prescriber Information Sheet](#) states all individuals who have received hydroxychloroquine for more than 5 years should receive annual screening for retinopathy.

In addition, all individuals taking hydroxychloroquine who have **additional risk factors for retinal toxicity** should be **screened annually** from the baseline visit or annual screening may be commenced before five years of treatment completed. This is to be decided by a consultant ophthalmologist following the baseline visit.

Additional risk factors:

- Concomitant tamoxifen use
- Impaired renal function (estimated glomerular filtration rate of less than 60 ml/min/1.73m²)
- Dose of hydroxychloroquine greater than 5mg/kg/day or cumulative dose > 200 g
- Age above 65 years old
- Visual acuity below 6/8

[Please note: it is the specialist secondary care clinician that is responsible for making the referral for retinopathy screening.](#)

To contact the Medicines Optimisation Team please phone 01772 214302