





Phototoxic reaction to ciprofloxacin

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A 66 year old woman presented with a three week history of a blistering eruption on sun exposed toes of both feet (fig 1). She had taken ciprofloxacin 750 mg twice a day for nearly five months for a wound infection following spinal surgery. She was also taking naproxen.



Abrupt onset of severe bullous change in a sun exposed site suggests phototoxicity. She stopped both drugs and successfully restarted naproxen without further problems, making pseudoporphyria unlikely. Phototoxic reactions to ciprofloxacin and other quinolone antibiotics occur more frequently with higher dosage and greater sunlight intensity.

Patient consent obtained.

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