

ZOVIRAX[®] CREAM 5% W/W

Acyclovir (5% w/w)

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What ZOVIRAX is used for

It is used to treat cold sores and genital infections caused by the Herpes simplex virus.

How ZOVIRAX works

Zovirax Cream contains a medicine called acyclovir. This belongs to a group of medicines called antivirals. It works by killing or stopping the growth of viruses that cause cold sores or genital herpes.

Before you use ZOVIRAX

- When you must not use it

Do not use Zovirax if:

- you are allergic (hypersensitive) to acyclovir, valaciclovir, propylene glycol or any of the other ingredients.

If you are not sure, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Zovirax.

- Before you start to use it

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Zovirax if:

- you have a condition where your immune system works less well and your body is less able to fight infections (e.g. if you have human immunodeficiency virus

(HIV) or AIDS or if you have had a bone marrow transplant).

If you are not sure, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Zovirax.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before using any medicine.

- Taking other medicines

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines. This includes medicines obtained without prescription, including herbal medicines.

How to use ZOVIRAX

- How much to use

Always use Zovirax exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Adults and children

- Apply a thin layer of cream to the affected area five times a day.
- You should space each application of Zovirax by four hours. Suggested times are: 7am, 11am, 3pm, 7pm and 11pm.
- If your cold sore has not healed after 4 days, or your genital herpes sore has not healed after 5 days, you may use the cream for 5 more days.
- If the affected area has still not healed after this, stop using the cream and tell your doctor.

Applying the cream

- Zovirax Cream is not for use in your mouth, eyes or the vagina.
- You should not mix Zovirax with anything before you use it, not even water.
- Always wash your hands before and after you use the cream.

- When to use it

Use as directed by your doctor or pharmacist.

- How long to use it

Continue taking Zovirax for as long as your doctor recommends. If your cold sore has not healed after 4 days, or your genital herpes sore has not healed after 5 days, you may use the cream for 5 more days.

- If you forget to use it

If you forget to use Zovirax, use it as soon as you remember. However, if it is nearly time for your next application, skip the missed application. Do not use a double application to make up for a forgotten application.

- If you use too much (overdose)

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you use too much Zovirax. Zovirax Cream is for use on the skin, if you swallow any talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

While you are using it

- Things you must do

Check with your doctor or pharmacist before taking your

medicine and take it as prescribed by your doctor.

- Things you must not do

This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.

- Things to be careful of

Zovirax Cream is not for use in the mouth, eyes or the vagina. Zovirax Cream may cause skin irritation.

Side Effects

Like all medicines, Zovirax can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. The following side effects may happen with this medicine:

Allergic reactions (affects less than 1 in 10,000 people)

If you have an allergic reaction, stop taking Zovirax and see a doctor straight away. The signs may include:

- rash, itching or hives on your skin
- swelling of your face, lips, tongue or other parts of your body
- shortness of breath, wheezing or trouble breathing
- unexplained high fever (high temperature) and feeling faint, especially when standing up.

Other side effects include:

Uncommon (affects less than 1 in 100 people)

- a burning or stinging feeling after applying the cream that goes away

- mild drying or flaking of your skin
- itching.

Rare (affects less than 1 in 1,000 people)

- redness of your skin
- skin rash.

If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

You may report any side effects or adverse drug reactions directly to the National Centre for Adverse Drug Reaction Monitoring by calling Tel: 03-78835550, or visiting the website portal.bpfk.gov.my (Consumers → Reporting)

Storage and Disposal of ZOVIRAX

- Storage

- Keep out of the reach and sight of children.
- Store below 25°C.
- Do not store in a refrigerator.
- Do not use Zovirax after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and tube. The expiry date (Exp.) refers to the last day of that month.

- Disposal

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

Product Description

- What it looks like

A smooth white cream containing 5% w/w acyclovir in a water-miscible base which includes propylene glycol. Container: 2 gm, 5 gm and 10 gm; collapsible aluminium tube with membrane seal, internally lacquered, and plastic screw cap.

- Ingredients

- Active ingredient

5% w/w acyclovir

- Inactive ingredients

Poloxamer 407, White Soft Paraffin, Cetostearyl Alcohol, Liquid paraffin, Arlacel 165 Dimethicone 20, Propylene Glycol, Purified water, Sodium Lauryl Sulphate

- MAL number

MAL19860863A

Manufacturer

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Product Registration Holder

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Date of Revision

- 04/02/2016

Serial Number

BPFK(R4/1)231115/00447