

# HYDROCORTISONE CREAM

Hydrocortisone Acetate (1 %w/w)

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## What Hydrocortisone Cream is used for

It is for relief of inflammatory and itching manifestations of corticosteroid-responsive skin disorders.

## How Hydrocortisone Cream Works

The active ingredient in the medicine is Hydrocortisone acetate. Topical corticosteroids share anti-inflammatory, anti-itching and blood vessel narrowing actions. The mechanism of anti-inflammatory activity of topical corticosteroids is unclear.

## Before you use Hydrocortisone Cream

### - When you must not use it

Do not use Hydrocortisone cream if you have exhibited hypersensitivity to hydrocortisone or to any of the components of the preparation.

### - Before you start to use it

Systemic absorption of topical corticosteroids has produced reversible adrenal gland suppression causing manifestations of Cushing's syndrome, high blood sugar level and presence of sugar in the urine.

Conditions which increase systemic absorption include the application of the more potent steroids use over large surface areas, prolonged use and the addition of occlusive dressings.

So, your doctor will plan some tests for these conditions. If adrenal gland suppression is noted, your doctor will withdraw the medicine, reduce the frequency of application, or to substitute a less potent steroid.

### *Usage in children*

Children may demonstrate greater susceptibility to topical corticosteroid induced adrenal gland suppression and Cushing's syndrome than adults because of a larger skin surface area to body weight ratio. Manifestations of adrenal gland suppression in children include growth retardation, delayed weight gain, low plasma

cortisol levels, and absence of response to some hormone stimulation. Increased blood pressure in the brain has been reported in children receiving topical corticosteroids.

### *Pregnancy and breastfeeding*

Topical corticosteroids should be used during pregnancy only if the expected benefit outweighs any potential risks of amounts or for prolonged periods of time. It is not known whether topical administration of corticosteroids could result in sufficient systemic absorption to produce detectable quantities in breast milk.

So, caution should be exercised when topical corticosteroids are used by nursing woman.

### - Taking Other Medicines

Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you buy without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

## How to use Hydrocortisone cream

### - How much to use

Topical application.

A thin film of the cream is applied to the affected skin areas one to three times a day. Dosage of once or twice a day is often effective.

### - When to use it

When needed and according to your doctor's prescription. Usage of topical corticosteroids to children should be limited to the least amount that is effective.

### - How long to use it

It is important to use Hydrocortisone cream as long as your doctor prescribes.

### - If you forget to use it

Do not take extra dose to make up for a missed dose. Just take your next dose at usual the time.

### - If you use too much (overdose)

If you use too much of the medication by mistake, contact your doctor immediately or seek medical attention.

## While you are using it

### - Things you must do

Use Hydrocortisone cream exactly the way as prescribed.

### - Things you must not do

Do not share your medicines with others even if they have the same problem as you.

### - Things to be careful of

If you experience any side effects, irritation or infection, consult your doctor or pharmacist for advice.

## Side Effects

Like all medicines, Hydrocortisone cream can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

The following local adverse reactions have been reported with topical corticosteroids, especially under occlusive dressing such as burning, itching, irritation, dryness, excessive hair growth, acne eruptions, lightening of the skin, skin inflammation around the mouth, allergic contact skin inflammation, softening of the skin colour, secondary infection, skin thinning, stretch mark and heat rashes.

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

## Storage and Disposal of Hydrocortisone cream

### - Storage

Store at or below 25°C. Protect from light.

### - Disposal

If you have any unwanted tablets, do not put them in waste water or household rubbish. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose medicines. These measures will help to protect the environment.

## Product Description

### - What it looks like

White and smooth cream.

### - Ingredients

- Active Ingredient  
Hydrocortisone Acetate

- Inactive Ingredients

- Cetomacrogol 1000
- White Soft Paraffin
- Liquid Paraffin
- Ethylene Diaminetetraacetate
- Deionised Water
- Chlorocresol
- Cetostearyl Alcohol

-MAL number

MAL19870460AZ

**Manufacturer**

Sunward Pharmaceutical Sdn. Bhd.  
9,11 & 17 Jalan Kempas 4,  
Taman Perindustrian Tampoi Indah,  
81200 Johor Bahru, Johor, Malaysia.

**Product Registration Holder**

Sunward Pharmaceutical Sdn. Bhd.  
9,11 & 17 Jalan Kempas 4,  
Taman Perindustrian Tampoi Indah,  
81200 Johor Bahru, Johor, Malaysia.

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