

# DEXASONE ELIXIR

Dexamethasone (0.5mg / 5ml)

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## What Dexasone Elixir is used for

It is used for primary or secondary adrenocortical insufficiency (lack of cortisol hormone), rheumatic disorders (affecting muscles, tendons, joints, bones), collagen diseases (systemic lupus erythematosus), skin diseases (pemphigus, severe psoriasis, severe seborrheic dermatitis), bronchial asthma, eye diseases (eye inflammation, herpes zoster ophthalmicus, allergic conjunctivitis), blood disorders, cancer diseases (leukemias), swelling states and gastrointestinal diseases.

## How Dexasone Elixir works

The active ingredient in the medicine is Dexamethasone. It has the capacity to prevent or suppress the development of the local heat, redness, swelling and tenderness by which inflammation is recognized at the gross level of observation. At the microscopic level, they inhibit not only the early phenomena of the inflammatory process but also the later manifestations.

Naturally occurring glucocorticoids which also have salt- retaining properties, are used as replacement therapy in adrenocortical deficiency states. Their synthetic analogs including dexamethasone are primarily used for their potent anti-inflammatory effects in disorders of many organ systems. Glucocorticoids can cause various metabolic effects. It can change a person's body immune response.

## Before you use Dexasone Elixir

### - When you must not use it

Do not use Dexasone Elixir if:-

- you have systemic fungal infections.
- you have hypersensitivity to dexamethasone or any ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
- You have injected with live virus vaccinations.

### - Before you start to use it

You should check with your doctor if you have the following :-

- congestive heart failure
- diabetes mellitus
- chronic renal failure
- high blood pressure
- recent intestinal operation
- infectious diseases
- muscle weakness
- eye inflammation due to herpes simplex virus
- tuberculosis disease (bacterial infection that mainly affects the lungs)
- hypothyroidism (underactive thyroid disease)
- elderly person
- exposure to chicken pox and measles
- Cirrhosis (scarring of the liver)

Corticosteroids may mask some signs of infection, and new infections may appear during their use.

Prolonged use of corticosteroids may produce cataracts (clouding of eye lens) and glaucoma (increased pressure in the eye) with possible damage to the optic nerves, and may increase the risk of secondary eye infections due to fungi or viruses.

### Pregnancy and breastfeeding

You should check with your doctor if you are or think you may be pregnant, planning to become pregnant or if you are breastfeeding. It is not recommended for pregnant women and nursing mothers unless the expected benefit outweighs any potential risks. Corticosteroids appear in breast milk and can cause other unwanted effects.

### - Taking other medicines

There are a few medicines which may interact with Dexasone Elixir. It is important to tell your doctor or pharmacist about all the medicines that you are taking, including those obtained without doctor's prescription. You should talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking:-

- Aspirin, treatment for pain and inflammation
- Phenytoin and Phenobarbital, treatment for fits
- Ephedrine, medicine for asthma
- Rifampicin treatment for bacterial infections
- Coumarin anti-coagulants (treatment for blood thinning)
- Diuretic, as water tablets

## How to use Dexasone Elixir

### - How much to use

You should take Dexasone Elixir exactly as advised by your doctor or pharmacist. The amount you take each day will depend on your condition. Do not take more or less than what your doctor prescribes.

Dosage requirements are variable and must be individualized on the basis of the disease and the response of the individual. Recommended dosage is from 5ml to 90ml daily in divided doses.

### - When to use it

Use Dexasone Elixir when needed and according to your doctor's prescription. Swallow the elixir with water.

### - How long to use it

It is important to take Dexasone Elixir as long as your doctor prescribes.

### - If you forget to use it

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to take the medicine and skip the missed dose. Do not take a double dose to make up for the missed dose.

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

Contact your doctor immediately or go to the Emergency Department of your nearest hospital, if you think you or anyone else may have taken too much of this medicine. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.

## While you are using it

### - Things you must do

- Take your medicine exactly as your doctor has told you.
- Tell all the doctors, dentists and pharmacists treating you that you are taking Dexasone Elixir.
- Tell your doctor immediately if you become pregnant while taking this medication.

### - Things you must not do

- Do not stop taking the medicine unless advised by your doctor because too rapid withdrawal of corticosteroids may cause adrenocortical insufficiency and

may be minimized by gradual reduction of dosage. Other may include fever, joint pain, muscle pain and feeling of uneasiness.

- Do not take any new medicines without consulting your doctor.
- Do not give Dexasone Elixir to anyone else, even if they have the same symptoms or condition as you.

- Things to be careful of

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

**Side effects**

Like all medicines, Dexasone Elixir can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. Adverse reactions include fluid and electrolyte disturbance, muscle weakness, osteoporosis (brittle bone) acute pancreas inflammation, cushing syndrome, growth retardation, menstrual irregularities, increased pressure in the eye, visual disturbances, high blood pressure, swelling, mental disturbances, local changes and increased appetite.

Any other effects not listed above may also occur in some people. Please refer to your doctor or pharmacist if you experience any other symptoms while taking this medication.

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 Dexasone Elixir**

- Storage

Store at temperature 25°C.

- 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

Clear yellow colour syrup with pineapple flavour.

- Ingredient(s)

- Active Ingredient

Each 5ml contains of 0.5mg dexamethasone

- Inactive Ingredients

- Quinoline Yellow 70E
- Pineapple essence

- Syrup Simplex
- Citric acid
- Propyl Gallate
- Propylene Glycol
- Deionised Water
- Glycerine
- Spirit Chloroform

- MAL number

MAL19870622A

**Manufacturer**

Sunward Pharmaceutical Sdn. Bhd.  
No. 9,11 & 17, Jalan Kempas 4, Taman Perindustrian Tampoi Indah, 81200 Johor Bahru, Johor, Malaysia.

**Product Registration Holder**

Sunward Pharmaceutical Sdn. Bhd.  
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