

Essential drugs / Drugs for external use, antiseptics and disinfectants

HYDROCORTISONE, cream and ointment

Prescription under medical supervision

Therapeutic action

- Topical corticosteroid

Indications

- Atopic eczema, contact eczema, seborrhoeic dermatitis
- Reactions to insect bites

Forms and strengths

- 1% cream and ointment

Dosage and duration

- Child and adult: one application once daily or 2 times daily to the affected area only, in thin layer, for 7 days maximum

Contra-indications, adverse effects, precautions

– Do not use:

- for more than 7 days;
- in case of acne, rosacea, perioral dermatoses, untreated bacterial (impetigo, etc.), fungal (candidiasis and dermatophytosis) and viral (herpes) skin infections;
- under occlusive dressing, on large areas of skin or on wounds, especially in infants and children (increased local and systemic adverse effects).

– May cause:

- irritations, pruritus, burning sensations, skin eruptions, hypopigmentation, contact eczema and urticaria;
- skin atrophy, dilation of small blood vessels (telangiectasia), stretch marks, skin fragility, delayed wound healing in case of prolonged treatment.

– Apply with precaution to:

- the eyelids and around the eyes (risk of glaucoma and cataract);
- the face (risk of rosacea and thinning of the skin);
- the skin folds (increased adverse effects).

- Pregnancy: no contra-indication
- Breast-feeding: no contra-indication. Do not

Remarks

- The cream and ointment are interchangeable. However, preferably use the cream on moist lesions and the ointment on dry and scaly lesions.
- Storage: below 25 °C - ~~✓~~