# **Betamethasone Topical Preparations**

Betamethasone is used for the treatment of redness, swelling and itching that is associated with skin or scalp ailments such as dermatitis or eczema. It belongs to a group of medications called corticosteroids and has anti-inflammatory and anti-itching actions.

#### What is this medication used for

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## Dosage and How to Use

### Adults (18 years old and above)

Betamethasone should be applied as a thin layer to the affected area twice a day by gently rubbing the cream/ointment/gel/topical solution onto the skin. The amount of cream/ointment/gel/topical solution you should use depends on the size of the affected area. Avoid using excessive amounts of this product or applying it on large areas of skin. Wash and dry the whole area to be treated before applying the cream/ointment/gel/topical solution.

Do not use the cream/ointment/gel/topical solution on skin areas that have cuts or scrapes, or skin areas that are infected. Do not cover the treated area with a bandage or dressing unless your doctor has told you to do so. Do not apply onto the face/eyelid unless your doctor has told you to do so. Wash your hands thoroughly after using the product and avoid contact with the eyes, mouth or nostrils. If the product comes into contact with any of these areas, rinse it off immediately with plenty of water.

Duration of use varies and you should discontinue use once your skin condition has resolved. You should consult a doctor if your condition has not resolved by 2 weeks.

Do not share the product with others even if they have similar signs and symptoms.

## Side Effects, Precautions, Contraindication

#### Before you use this medication

This cream/ointment/gel/topical solution should be avoided if you have a known history of allergy to Betamethasone or any of the other listed ingredients in the product.

This medication should not be used by any children or adolescents below 18 years old unless prescribed by a doctor.

There is limited experience with the use of betamethasone during pregnancy. Please seek your doctor's advice before using this medication if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

#### Side effects

Burning, itching, irritation, scaling or dryness of the skin at application site. Acne, inflammation of hair follicles causing excessive hair growth, rashes around the mouth, allergic contact dermatitis, maceration of the skin, secondary skin infection.

Skin thinning or change in skin colour may occur with prolonged or excessive use.

## Handling and Storage

Keep out of reach and sight of children. Store in a cool dry place not exceeding 30°C.

## When to seek further medical advice

Inform your doctor and/or pharmacist immediately if you experience any allergic symptoms (e.g. rashes, itchiness, difficulty in breathing or swelling of the face, lips or areas around the eyes) or serious side effects due to this medication.

Consult a doctor if there are signs of infection at the site of application like redness, swelling, discharge of pus.

Consult a doctor if your condition worsens or if you do not see improvement in 2 weeks.



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