What are the possible side effects?

The common side effects include dryness, itching, stinging, etc.

Topical corticosteroids are usually well tolerated for short-term use. However, prolonged use in excessive amount may cause skin thinning.

If you notice any allergic reactions like skin itchiness, face or hand swelling, breathing difficulty, etc., consult your doctor immediately.

What if I miss a dose?

Use the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next scheduled dose.

Do not double the dose.

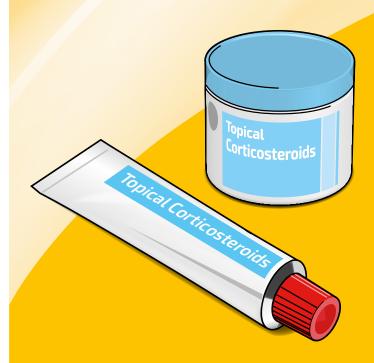
How to store?

- **1.** Keep out of reach of children.
- **2.** Store in a cool, dry place and away from direct heat and light.

For any queries, please seek advice from your doctor, pharmacist or other healthcare professionals.

S/N: 042Ev4 (10/2021)

Topical Corticosteroids





連劑職系及服務統籌委員會 OC-Grade (Pharmaceutical Services)





What are Topical Corticosteroids?

Topical corticosteroids are preparations with steroids intended to be applied on skin surface. They are commonly used for skin allergy and inflammatory skin disorders. Different forms of topical corticosteroids such as lotion, cream and ointment are available.



Indication

Topical corticosteroids are indicated for the treatment of skin problems, such as eczema, allergic dermatitis and psoriasis.



How do they work?

Topical corticosteroids can be classified based on their anti-inflammatory property as mild, moderate, potent and very potent.

Corticosteroids control the production of inflammatory substances to reduce itchiness and inflammation in the affected area.

How to use?

- 1. Clean and dry your hands and the affected area.
- **2.** Apply sparingly to the affected area.



- **3.** The amount required depends on which part of the body is being treated. In general, a fingertip unit, defined as the amount needed to squeeze a line from the tip of an adult index finger to the first crease of the finger, should be sufficient to cover a pair of the entire adult hands.
- **4.** Unless the medication is applied to your hands for treatment, wash hands after use.

Precautions

- **1.** For external use only.
- **2.** Use the medication as directed by your doctor.
- **3.** If you have history of drug allergy, consult your doctor or pharmacist before using the medication.
- **4.** Discard all medications that have expired or are no longer required.
- **5.** Do not share the medication with other people.
- **6.** Tell your doctor and pharmacist if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- **7.** Please consult your doctor if symptoms persist or worsen after using the medication.
- **8.** During treatment, do not scratch the affected area to avoid skin lesions and infection.
- **9.** Patients with contact dermatitis should avoid exposure to irritants and allergens (if known), such as detergents, chemicals and accessories.
- **10.** Topical corticosteroids are also absorbed through the skin. Do not use in excess or apply to wounded area to prevent increased absorption causing systemic side effects.
- **11.** Do not wrap or bandage the affected area except under doctor's direction.