

CLEAR UP

Dermal Gel



Composition:

Each 1 g of gel contains: isotretinoin 0.5mg (0.05%), erythromycin 20mg (2%)

Excipients:

Hydroxypropylcellulose, butylated hydroxytoluene and anhydrous ethanol.

Pharmacological properties:

Mechanism of action:

-Isotretinoin:

Isotretinoin is structurally and pharmacologically related to vitamin A, which regulates epithelial cell growth and differentiation. When used systemically, it suppresses sebaceous gland activity and reduces sebum production; it also affects comedogenesis, inhibits follicular keratinisation, suppresses Propionibacterium acnes and reduces inflammation. It is thought that topically applied isotretinoin acts in a comparable way to its stereoisomer, tretinoin, and: Stimulates mitosis in the epidermis.

Reduces intercellular cohesion in the stratum corneum.

Contests the hyperkeratosis characteristics of acne vulgaris.

Aids desquamation, preventing the formation of lesions.

Mediates an increased production of less cohesive epidermal sebaceous cells, which appears to promote the initial exfoliation and subsequent prevention of comedones.

Isotretinoin has topical anti-inflammatory actions.

-Erythromycin:

Erythromycin is a macrolide antibiotic which acts by interfering with bacterial protein synthesis and inhibiting polypeptide synthesis.

In the treatment of acne, it is effective through reduction in the population of Propionibacterium acnes, and through prevention of release of inflammatory mediators by the bacteria. Resistance of Propionibacterium acnes to topical erythromycin can occur, but evidence exists that the combination of erythromycin and isotretinoin in this product is effective against erythromycin-resistant strains of Propionibacterium acnes.

Pharmacokinetic properties:

-Absorption:

Percutaneous absorption of isotretinoin and erythromycin from Isotrexin is negligible.

-Distribution:

There is no evidence that the active components are absorbed to any extent after being applied to the skin.

Systemic (oral) isotretinoin is more than 99.9% bound to plasma proteins, primarily albumin.

Systemic (oral) erythromycin is about 65% bound to plasma proteins, primarily to alpha 1 acid glycoprotein (approximately 55%).

Metabolism

Isotretinoin

In vivo studies in humans showed that the three major metabolites identified in human plasma following systemic (oral) administration of isotretinoin were: 4-oxo-isotretinoin, retinoic acid (tretinoin), and 4-oxo-retinoic acid (4-oxo-tretinoin). In vitro studies indicated that all of these metabolites had retinoid activity.

Erythromycin

No data exist relating to the metabolism, if any, of erythromycin on the skin.

After systemic (oral) administration, erythromycin is inactivated in the liver by demethylation of the 2-desosamine group, a reaction catalyzed by cytochrome P450 3A.

-Elimination:

The metabolites of isotretinoin and any conjugates are ultimately eliminated in the faeces and urine. If very small quantities of erythromycin are absorbed, it will be oxidised and excreted in bile or in urine, respectively.

Therapeutic indications:

This product is indicated for the topical treatment of moderate acne.

Posology and method of administration:

This product is for topical use only.

Adults and Adolescents (aged 12 years and above):

Apply This product in a thin film over the entire affected area once or twice daily, preferably after cleaning the skin gently with a mild cleanser and drying fully.

Avoid close proximity to eyes, lips, and other mucous membranes.

Patients should be advised that, in some cases, six to eight weeks of treatment may be required before the full therapeutic effect is observed.

The efficacy and safety of this product has not been studied beyond 12 weeks in acne vulgaris clinical trials. The prescriber should evaluate the benefit of continuing treatment beyond 12 weeks of uninterrupted use, taking account of an increased risk of antimicrobial resistance.

Patients should wash their hands after application of This product Gel.

The patient should be advised to avoid over-saturation with This product to the extent that excess medication could run into their eyes, and angles of the nose or other areas where treatment is not intended. Patients should be advised that if This product is applied excessively, no more rapid or better results should be obtained and marked redness, peeling or discomfort may occur. Should this occur accidentally or through over enthusiasm use patients may use a moisturiser as needed and should reduce frequency of application or application should be discontinued for a few days. The normal frequency of application should be resumed once the irritation subsides. Treatment should be discontinued if the irritation persists.

Efficacy has not been established for less than once daily dosing frequencies.

Due to the flammable nature of this product, patients should avoid smoking or being near an open flame during application and immediately after use.

-Paediatric population:

The safety and efficacy of this product have not been established in children less than 12 years of age, therefore This product is not recommended for use in this population.

-Elderly patients:

No specific recommendations as acne vulgaris does not present in the elderly.

-Renal impairment:

No dosage adjustment is necessary.

As there is low systemic absorption of this product following topical application, renal impairment is not expected to result in systemic exposure of clinical significance.

-Hepatic impairment:

No dosage adjustment is necessary.

As there is low systemic absorption of this product following topical application, hepatic impairment is not expected to result in systemic exposure of clinical significance.

Contraindications:

Hypersensitivity to the active substance or any of the excipients.

This product is contraindicated in pregnancy, in women planning a pregnancy and in lactation.

Special warnings and precautions for use:

-Irritation:

Contact with the mouth, eyes, lips, mucous membranes and areas with abraded skin should be avoided. In case of accidental contact, rinse well with water. Care should be taken not to let the medicine accumulate in skin folds.

The excipient butylated hydroxytoluene may cause local skin reactions (e.g. contact dermatitis), or irritation to the eyes and mucous membranes.

Due to the irritant nature of the product, caution should be used when applying to sensitive areas of skin, such as the neck, abraded or eczematous skin, or when treating patients with inflammatory skin conditions that may coexist with acne e.g. rosacea or perioral dermatitis.

This product should also be used with caution in patients who have had a problem tolerating this or similar retinoid products in the past.

Due to the potential for severe irritation, application to eczematous skin should be avoided.

This product should be used with caution in patients with a history of photoallergy.

Concomitant topical acne therapy should be used with caution because a cumulative irritant effect may occur. If irritation or dermatitis occurs, reduce frequency of application or temporarily interrupt treatment and resume once the irritation subsides. Treatment should be discontinued if the irritation persists.

In patients whose skin has been subjected to procedures such as depilation, chemical hair treatments, chemical peels, dermabrasion, or laser resurfacing the skin should be allowed to recover before application is considered.

Cosmetics that have a strong drying effect, including products with high concentrations of alcohol and/or astringents, or that have a potential irritating effect should be used with caution as a cumulative irritant

effect may occur.

-Resistance to erythromycin:

The treatment of acne with topical antibiotics is associated with the development of antimicrobial resistance in Propionibacterium acnes as well as other bacteria (e.g. Staphylococcus aureus, Streptococcus pyogenes). The use of erythromycin may result in developing resistance in these organisms.

If there is evidence of the development of clinical antimicrobial resistance during treatment (e.g. poor response or worsening of the condition), treatment with This product should be discontinued.

-Cross-resistance:

Cross-resistance with other antibiotics of the macrolide group and with clindamycin may occur. The use of antibiotic agents may be associated with the overgrowth of antibiotic-resistant organisms. If this occurs, discontinue use.

-Pseudomembranous colitis:

This product should be used with caution in patients with or with a history of regional enteritis, ulcerative colitis, or antibiotic-associated colitis (including pseudomembranous colitis).

Pseudomembranous colitis has been reported with the use of antibiotics and may range in severity from mild to life-threatening. Therefore, it is important to consider its diagnosis in patients who develop diarrhoea during or after antibiotic use. Although this is less likely to occur with topically applied erythromycin, if prolonged or significant diarrhoea occurs or the patient experiences abdominal cramps, treatment should be discontinued immediately and the patient investigated further.

-Sensitivity to sunlight and environmental exposure:

As this product may cause increased sensitivity to sunlight, deliberate or prolonged exposure to sunlight or sunlamps should be avoided or minimised. When exposure to sunlight cannot be avoided use of sunscreen products providing adequate UVB and UVA protection and protective clothing over treated areas is recommended. Due to the potential for photosensitivity, resulting in greater risk for sunburn, This product should be used with caution in patients with a personal or family history of skin cancer. If a patient has sunburn, this should be resolved before using This product.

Weather extremes, such as wind or cold, may be more irritating to patients using this product.

Interactions:

No formal drug-drug interaction studies have been conducted with this product.

Clindamycin and erythromycin have been shown to be antagonistic in vitro. No clinical data is available. Concomitant application of oxidising agents, such as benzoyl peroxide, should be avoided since they may reduce the efficacy of topical isotretinoin. If combination therapy is required, the products should be applied at different times of the day (e.g. one in the morning and the other in the evening).

Pregnancy:

The safety of this product for use in human pregnancy has not been established.

This product is contraindicated during pregnancy and in women planning a pregnancy. If the product is used during pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking this drug, treatment should be discontinued.

Breastfeeding:

This product has not been studied during breastfeeding.

Percutaneous absorption of erythromycin from this product is negligible. However, it is not known whether erythromycin is excreted into maternal milk after topical application.

Percutaneous absorption of isotretinoin from this product is negligible. However, as it is not known if isotretinoin is excreted into maternal milk, a risk to the newborn/infant cannot be excluded.

A decision must be made whether to discontinue breastfeeding or to discontinue/obtain from This product therapy taking into account the benefit of breastfeeding for the child and the benefit of therapy for the mother.

Fertility:

There are no data on the effect of this product (or the single actives) on fertility in humans, but isotretinoin in oral therapeutic dosages does not affect the number, motility, and morphology of sperm.

Effects on ability to drive and use machines:

This product has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

Undesirable effects:

Very common:

Rash, dryness, erythema, scaling, burning, pruritus skin irritation, Pain.

Common:

Application site reactions including eczema, exfoliative dermatitis.

Other side effects:

Allergic reaction, Abdominal discomfort, abdominal pain upper, diarrhoea.

Photosensitivity reaction, skin discoloration, skin hyperpigmentation, skin hypopigmentation, urticaria.

Facial oedema.

Overdose:

-Symptoms and signs:

Acute overdose of this product has not been reported to date.

Oral ingestion of a tube this product would result in less exposure than achieved with the recommended dosage of oral isotretinoin. Consequently, the theoretical occurrence of symptoms of isotretinoin overdose (e.g. hypertrichosis) is highly unlikely.

In the event of accidental ingestion, gastrointestinal adverse reactions similar to those following orally administered erythromycin may be seen (e.g. nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea).

The gel formulation contains a significant quantity of ethanol. Systemic absorption of this should be considered in the event of oral ingestion.

-Treatment:

Appropriate symptomatic measures should be taken to provide relief from skin irritation due to excessive application.

Further management should be as clinically indicated or as recommended by the national poisons centre, where available.

Storage conditions:

Store below 25°C. contents are flammable, keep away from flame, fire and heat, away from direct sunlight, out of the reach of children.

Presentation:

A carton box contains a 30g tube of aluminum with a white cap screw.

THIS IS A MEDICAMENT

-A medicament is a product but unlike any other products.

-A medicament is a product which affects your health, and its consumption contrary to instructions is dangerous for you.

-Follow strictly the physician's prescription, the method of use and the instructions of the pharmacist who sold the medicament. The physician and the pharmacist are experts in medicine, its benefits and risks.

-Do not by yourself interrupt the period of treatment prescribed for you.

-Do not repeat the same prescription without consulting your physician.

KEEP THE MEDICAMENTS OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN

(Council of Arab Health Ministers)

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Ugarit Pharmaceutical Co.
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