

New Zealand Consumer Medicine Information

RECTOGESIC®

Glyceryl trinitrate 0.2% ointment

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about RECTOGESIC.

It does not contain all the available information.

It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of your taking RECTOGESIC against the benefits expected for you.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine. You may need to read it again.

What RECTOGESIC is used for

What is RECTOGESIC

RECTOGESIC Ointment is used for the treatment and relief of symptoms of anal fissure and may assist in relief of pain and discomfort associated with haemorrhoids and haemorrhoidectomy.

How will it help me

If you suffer anal fissure (which has been diagnosed by your doctor), RECTOGESIC is used as a treatment to help reduce the fissure and relieve the pain and spasm (muscle contraction) associated with this condition.

If you suffer from haemorrhoids, RECTOGESIC is also used to help relieve pain and discomfort associated with this condition. If you have recently undergone haemorrhoidectomy (a surgical procedure to remove haemorrhoids), your doctor may have prescribed RECTOGESIC to help relieve pain and discomfort.

Before using RECTOGESIC

Before you begin using RECTOGESIC, you should be aware of some precautions associated with the use of RECTOGESIC.

You should not use RECTOGESIC if you suffer from:

- severe anaemia (low blood count)
- glaucoma (increased eye pressure)
- hypotension (low blood pressure)
- increased intracranial pressure (high pressure inside your head)

Also you should not use RECTOGESIC if you are pregnant or breastfeeding or if you are allergic to glyceryl trinitrate or any of the other ingredients in RECTOGESIC.

Use in children

RECTOGESIC is not recommended for use in children.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

You should not use RECTOGESIC during pregnancy or when breast-feeding.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking any medicine when pregnant or breast feeding.

RECTOGESIC contains lanolin (wool fat) which may cause a skin reaction.

Taking other medicines

Do not use RECTOGESIC if you are taking any of the following medicines for erectile dysfunction such as sildenafil citrate, tadalafil, vardenafil; medicines for angina or heart pain such as glyceryl trinitrate (GTN), isosorbide dinitrate, amyl or butyl nitrite; medicines for high blood pressure or depression (tricyclic anti-depressants), acetylcysteine or alteplase.

Advise your doctor if you are already taking any medication for chest pain or the treatment of any heart condition. These and other medications may not be suitable for use with RECTOGESIC or the dose of RECTOGESIC may need to be adjusted. Discuss this with your doctor and he will advise you as to what you should do.

Taking RECTOGESIC with dihydroergotamine (used to treat migraine) may increase the action of dihydroergotamine and lead to coronary vasoconstriction (narrowing of blood vessels in the heart causing slower blood flow).

Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin) and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (certain types of painkillers) might alter the therapeutic effect of RECTOGESIC.

If you are to be given heparin, close monitoring of your blood will be required as your dose of heparin may need to be altered. Please discuss with your doctor before stopping RECTOGESIC.

Interaction with alcohol

Be careful when drinking alcohol while you are using RECTOGESIC as your blood pressure may drop, making you feel dizzy and faint. Therefore, it is advisable to reduce or stop alcohol consumption during treatment with RECTOGESIC.

While using RECTOGESIC

Driving or operating machinery

RECTOGESIC may cause dizziness, light headedness, blurred vision, headaches or tiredness in some patients, especially when you first start to use it. Be careful driving a car or operating machinery until you know how RECTOGESIC affects you.

How to use RECTOGESIC

Because RECTOGESIC contains glyceryl trinitrate it must be used strictly as directed.

A 1 cm to 1.5 cm strip of ointment (see measurement indicated on box) should be inserted into the anal cavity with your finger, The finger may be wrapped in Gladwrap. An applicator is not recommended since it is difficult to judge the amount being squeezed into the anal passage. The ointment must be inserted at least 1 cm into the anus.

Apply the ointment three times daily and do not exceed the dosage. Wash hands after application. If the tube is difficult to squeeze - soften the ointment by warming the tube between your hands or in a glass of lukewarm water.

If you forget to apply RECTOGESIC

Do not use a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose. Apply the next dose at the usual time.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Side Effects

You should report any unwanted effects associated with the use of RECTOGESIC to your doctor or pharmacist, even if the undesirable effect is not mentioned in this leaflet. Some of the more common side effects expected with RECTOGESIC are listed below.

Headache is a common side effect experienced with RECTOGESIC. These are usually mild and occur after the first few applications only, due to intolerance to the RECTOGESIC. The headache may be relieved with a simple analgesic, such as paracetamol.

After applying RECTOGESIC, you may also experience nausea, fainting effect or dizziness, particularly if you are an older person.

If you experience any of these unwanted effects, do not use any more ointment for at least eight hours, then continue treatment by reducing the amount of ointment by half. If the effect persists, stop the treatment and see your doctor.

Uncommon effects include diarrhoea, anal or rectal discomfort, vomiting, rectal bleeding, proctitis, itching and rapid heartbeat.

If you take too much (overdose)

Overdosage may occur if you use too much ointment or if you are sensitive to the effects of RECTOGESIC. Some signs of overdosage are headache, fainting or dizziness. When these symptoms are experienced, you should stop using RECTOGESIC for at least 8 hours and then resume use with half the dosage. Simple analgesics such as paracetamol may provide temporary relief of headaches. If any of these symptoms persist, stop using RECTOGESIC and consult your doctor.

After using RECTOGESIC

Storage conditions

Close the tube tightly, immediately after each use. Store RECTOGESIC in a cool place and protect from light (e.g. store in a cupboard, not in the bathroom). Keep it where children cannot reach it.

There will be an expiry date (month, year) on the RECTOGESIC container. The ointment should not be used after this date and should be returned to your pharmacy for disposal.

Product Description

RECTOGESIC is an off-white smooth opaque rectal ointment available in a 30 gram tube.

Ingredients

RECTOGESIC Ointment contains 0.2% glyceryl trinitrate in a base of liquid paraffin, soft yellow paraffin, lanolin and ethanol.

Sponsor

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Pharmacy Retailing (NZ) Ltd
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