

BETNOVATE -C™

Betamethasone Valerate 0.1% w/w and Clioquinol 3% w/w Cream and Ointment

Consumer Medicine Information

What is in this leaflet?

Please read this leaflet carefully before you use BETNOVATE-C.

This leaflet answers some common questions about BETNOVATE-C. It does not contain all of 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 expected benefits of you taking BETNOVATE-C against the risks this medicine could have 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 is BETNOVATE-C used for?

BETNOVATE-C is used to treat various inflammatory skin conditions, including eczema, psoriasis and dermatitis. It is often used where there is or may be an infection, as well as inflammation.

BETNOVATE-C belongs to a group of medicines known as corticosteroids, frequently called 'steroids'. They are not 'anabolic steroids' which are the steroids sometimes misused by athletes.

BETNOVATE-C works by reducing the inflammation in the affected area to reduce the redness and itchiness of the skin.

BETNOVATE-C also contains Clioquinol, which helps to prevent or clear up some bacterial or fungal infections of the skin.

Your doctor may have prescribed BETNOVATE-C for another reason.

BETNOVATE-C is not addictive.

Before you use BETNOVATE-C

Do not use if:

You must not use BETNOVATE-C if:

- you have ever had an allergic reaction to Betamethasone Valerate, 'Beta™', 'Bivate™' or any of the ingredients listed toward the end of this leaflet. (See "Ingredients")
- **you have acne or rosacea (severe flushing of the skin on and around the nose)**
- **you have chickenpox**
- **you have cold sores or genital herpes (herpes simplex virus)**
- **the expiry date (EXP) printed on the pack has passed.**
- **the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering**

Do not use BETNOVATE-C to treat dermatitis or other skin irritations around your mouth, genitals or anus, unless specifically told to do so by your doctor.

Do not let BETNOVATE-C get into your eyes.

Tell your doctor if:

You must tell your doctor if:

- **you are allergic to foods, dyes, preservatives or any other medicines.**
- **you are taking any other medicines, including medicines you buy without a prescription.**
- **you are breastfeeding, pregnant or trying to become pregnant.**

How do I use BETNOVATE-C?

How much to use

Use BETNOVATE-C as directed by your doctor or pharmacist.

How long to use it for

BETNOVATE-C is to be used for short term treatment only.

What do I do if I use too much? (Overdose)

Immediately telephone your doctor or Poisons Information Centre (telephone 0800 POISON or 0800 764 766) for advice, or go to the Accident and Emergency Department at your nearest hospital, if you think you or anyone else may have taken too much BETNOVATE-C, even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

If you are not sure what to do, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

While you are using BETNOVATE-C

Things you must do

Tell your doctor if, for any reason, you have not taken your medicine exactly as directed.

Otherwise, your doctor may think that it was not working as it should and change your treatment unnecessarily.

Things you must not do

Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if their symptoms seem similar to yours.

Do not use BETNOVATE-C to treat any other complaints unless your doctor says to.

Things to be careful of

Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how BETNOVATE-C affects you.

What are the side effects?

Check with your doctor as soon as possible if you think you are experiencing any side effects or allergic reactions due to taking BETNOVATE-C, even if the problem is not listed below.

Like other medicines, BETNOVATE-C can cause some side effects. If they occur, they are most likely to be minor and temporary. However, some may be serious and need medical attention.

The most commonly reported side-effects are:

- skin rash
- hot or burning sensation
- itching

Tell your doctor immediately if you notice any of the following:

- **Wheezing, swelling of the lips/mouth, difficulty in breathing, hayfever, lumpy rash (hives) or fainting. These could be a symptom of an allergic reaction.**
- **Worsening of symptoms**
- **Skin pigmentation changes**

This is not a complete list of all possible side effects. Others may occur in some people and there may be some side effects not yet known.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

How do I store BETNOVATE-C?

Keep this medicine where children cannot reach it, such as in a locked cupboard.

Keep BETNOVATE-C in a cool, dry place where it stays below 30°C.

Keep BETNOVATE-C out of direct sunlight.

Do not leave in a car, on window sill or in bathroom.

Keep BETNOVATE-C in its tube until time to use it.

Return any unused or expired medicine to your pharmacist.

Product description

What BETNOVATE-C looks like

BETNOVATE-C cream and ointment are supplied in aluminium tubes with a plastic cap.

BETNOVATE-C cream is a smooth, straw-coloured cream.

BETNOVATE-C ointment is a white or pale straw-coloured ointment.

Ingredients

BETNOVATE-C contains the active ingredients Betamethasone Valerate and Clioquinol.

BETNOVATE-C cream also contains: Chlorocresol, Cetomacrogol 1000, Cetosteryl Alcohol, White Soft Paraffin, Liquid Paraffin, Sodium Dihydrogen Phosphate Dihydrate, Phosphoric Acid, Sodium Hydroxide, Purified Water.

BETNOVATE-C Ointment also contains: Liquid Paraffin, White Soft Paraffin.

Supplier

Your BETNOVATE-C is supplied by:

GlaxoSmithKline NZ Limited
Quay Tower
Cnr Albert & Customs Streets
Private Bag 106600
Downtown Auckland
NEW ZEALAND

Where to go for further information

Pharmaceutical companies are not in a position to give people an individual diagnosis or medical advice. Your doctor or pharmacist is the best person to give you advice on the treatment of your condition.

The information provided applies only to: BETNOVATE-CTM.
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Version 1.0
February 2005