What is in this leaflet

Read this leaflet carefully before you start to use PATANOL* Eye Drops.

This leaflet has been written to answer some common questions about PATANOL Eye Drops. It does not contain all of the available information and does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. In deciding to prescribe PATANOL Eye Drops for you, your doctor has weighed the potential risks and benefits of using this medicine.

The information in this leaflet applies to PATANOL Eye Drops only. This information does not apply to similar products, even if they contain the same ingredients.

If you have any concerns about using PATANOL Eye Drops, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with your medicine. You may need it again.

What PATANOL Eye Drops are Used for

PATANOL Eye Drops belong to the group of medicines called antihistamines and also to the group of medicines called anti-allergics.

PATANOL Eye Drops are used to treat seasonal, allergic conjunctivitis, which is an inflammation of the eye due to pollens that cause an allergic response to give watery, itchy and/or red eyes.

Before prescribing PATANOL* Eye Drops for you, your doctor will have examined the eye and decided that PATANOL Eye Drops is the right medicine.

Your doctor may have prescribed PATANOL Eye Drops for another reason. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why PATANOL Eye Drops have been prescribed for you.

PATANOL Eye Drops are not addictive.

Before you Use PATANOL Eye Drops

When you must not use it

Do not use PATANOL Eye Drops if:

You are allergic to olopatadine or to any other of the ingredients in PATANOL Eye Drops (these are listed under Product Description).

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathing; swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body; rash, itching or hives on the skin.

Do not use PATANOL Eye Drops if:

- the safety seal around the closure and neck area is broken
- the bottle/packaging shows signs of tampering
- the expiry date on the bottle/carton has passed

If you use this medicine after the expiry date has passed, it may not work.

Do not put the eye drops into your eye(s) while you are wearing soft contact lenses.

The preservative in PATANOL* Eye Drops (benzalkonium chloride) may be deposited in soft contact lenses. You can put your soft contact lenses back into your eyes 15 minutes after you have used PATANOL Eye Drops.

Do not use PATANOL Eye Drops in a child under 3 years. The safety and effectiveness of PATANOL Eye Drops in children under 3 years have not been established.

If you are not sure whether you should start using PATANOL Eye Drops, talk to your doctor.

Before you start to use it

Let your doctor know if any of the following applies before you start using PATANOL Eye Drops.

You have:

- allergies to any other medicines or any substances such as foods, preservatives or dyes
- any other medical conditions

If you:

- are pregnant or are intending to become pregnant. Your doctor will discuss the risks and benefits of using PATANOL Eye Drops when pregnant.
- are breastfeeding or intending to breastfeed. Your doctor will discuss the risks and benefits of using

PATANOL 0.1% Eye Drops
Olopatadine hydrochloride

CONSUMER MEDICINE INFORMATION
PATANOL® Eye Drops when
breast feeding.

If you have not told your
doctor about any of the above,
tell them before you use
PATANOL Eye Drops.

Using other medicines

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if
you are taking any other
medicines, including medicines
that you buy at a pharmacy,
supermarket or health food shop
without a doctor’s prescription.
This is particularly important
if you are currently using any
other type of eye drops.

Some medicines may affect the
way others work. Your doctor or
pharmacist will be able to tell
you what to do when using
PATANOL Eye Drops with other
medicines.

How to Use
PATANOL Eye Drops

Carefully follow all directions
given to you by your doctor
and pharmacist. They may
differ from the information
contained in this leaflet.

If you are being changed from
one medicine to another, follow
your doctor’s instructions
carefully as to when to stop the
medicine and when to start the
new eye drops.

If you do not understand the
instructions on the carton, ask
your doctor or pharmacist for
help.

How much to use

The usual dose of PATANOL
Eye Drops is one to two drops in
the affected eye(s) twice each
day. The dosing instructions will
be printed on the label your
pharmacist put on the bottle or
carton.

How to use it

It is important to use PATANOL
Eye Drops exactly as your
doctor or pharmacist has told
you. If you use it less often than
you should, it may not work as
well and the eye problem may
not improve. Using it more often
than you should may not
improve the eye problem any
faster and may cause increased
side effects.

If you are wearing soft contact
lenses, remove them
before putting the drops in your
eye.

Follow these steps to use the
eye drops:

1. Wash your hands thoroughly
   with soap and water.
2. Immediately before using a
   bottle for the first time, break
   the safety seal around the
   neck area and throw the
   loose plastic ring away.
3. Shake the bottle.
4. Remove the cap from the
   bottle.
5. Hold the bottle upside down
   in one hand between your
   thumb and middle finger
   (see Diagram 1).

Diagram 1

6. While tilting your head back,
gently pull down the lower
   eyelid of your eye to form a
pouch/pocket.
7. Place the tip of the bottle
   close to your eye. Do not let
it touch your eye.
8. Release one drop into the
   pouch/pocket formed
   between your eye and eyelid
   by gently tapping or pressing
   the base of the bottle with
   your forefinger (see
   Diagrams 2 and 3).

Diagram 2

9. Close your eye. Do not blink
   or rub your eye.
10. While your eye is closed,
    place your index finger
    against the inside corner of
    your eye and press against
    your nose for about two
    minutes. This will help to
    stop the medicine from
    draining through the tear
duct to the nose and throat,
    from where it can be
    absorbed into other parts of
    your body. This will also
    reduce the unpleasant taste
    sensation that some people
    experience when using
    these drops.
11. If necessary, repeat the
    above steps for the other
    eye.
12. Your eyelids can only hold
    less than one drop at a time,
    so it is normal for a small
    amount of the eye drop to
    spill onto your cheek. You
    should wipe away any
    spillage with a tissue.
13. Replace the cap on the
    bottle, closing it tightly.
14. Wash your hands again with
    soap and water to remove
    any residue.

You may feel a slight burning
sensation in the eye shortly after
using the eye drops. If this
persists, or is very
uncomfortable, contact your
doctor or pharmacist.

Be careful not to touch the
dropper tip against your eye,
eyelid or anything else. This
will help prevent the drops
becoming dirty or contaminated.

If you have trouble knowing
whether you have placed your
drops correctly, you may want to
store them in the fridge. Some
people find it easier to feel the
drops in the eye if they are cold.
After using PATANOL* Eye Drops, wait at least 5 minutes before putting any other eye drops in your eye(s).

Wait until 15 minutes before replacing your contact lenses.

When to Use it

Use PATANOL Eye Drops every day, at about the same time(s) each day, unless your doctor tells you otherwise. Using your eye drops at the same time(s) each day will have the best effect. It will also help you remember when to use the eye drops.

How long to use it

Your doctor or pharmacist will tell you how long to use PATANOL Eye Drops.

Do not use PATANOL Eye Drops longer than your doctor tells you. If you use PATANOL Eye Drops longer than your doctor or pharmacist tells you, the chance of side effects may increase.

If you are unsure about when or how to stop using PATANOL Eye Drops, you should talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

If you forget to use it

If you forget to use PATANOL Eye Drops, you should put the drops that you missed in the eye(s) as soon as you remember and then go back to using them as recommended by your doctor. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the dose that you missed and continue using them as recommended.

Do not use double the amount to make up for the dose that you missed. Using multiple doses may cause unwanted side effects.

If you are not sure whether to skip the dose, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

If you have trouble remembering to use the medicine, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

If you use too much (overdose)

If you accidentally put several drops in your eye(s), immediately rinse your eye(s) with warm water.

If you think that you or anyone else may have swallowed any or all of the contents of a bottle of PATANOL* Eye Drops, immediately telephone your doctor or Poisons Information Centre.

In Australia, call 13 11 26; in New Zealand, call 0800 POISON or 0800 764 766 for advice, or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

While you are Using PATANOL Eye Drops

Things you must do

Tell all doctors and pharmacists who are treating you that PATANOL Eye Drops are being used.

Tell your doctor if, for any reason, you have not used PATANOL Eye Drops exactly as prescribed. Otherwise your doctor may think that it was not effective and change the treatment unnecessarily.

You should tell your doctor if you become pregnant while you are using PATANOL Eye Drops.

Things you must not do

Do not:
• stop using PATANOL Eye Drops without first asking your doctor
• give this medicine to anyone else, even if they appear to have the same condition as you
• let children handle PATANOL* Eye Drops
• use PATANOL Eye Drops to treat other complaints unless your doctor or pharmacist tells you to

Things to be careful of

Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how PATANOL Eye Drops affect you and your vision. As with any eye medicine, temporary blurred vision or other visual disturbances may affect the ability to drive or use machinery in some people. If blurred vision occurs when you use your drops, wait until your vision is clear before driving or operating machinery.

Side Effects

All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need to seek medical treatment if you get some of the side effects.

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you do not feel well while using PATANOL Eye Drops.

Do not be alarmed by the following list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them. Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

Tell your doctor if you notice any of the following effects in the eye(s) and the eye area and they worry you:
• swelling of the eyelids or front part of the eye
• eye pain
• blurred vision
• feeling like there is something in the eye
• increased tearing
• dry eye
• red eye/eyelids
• itching
• crusty eyelids
increased sensitivity to sunlight

These are the most common side effects of your medicine. They are usually mild and short-lived. Occasionally, some people notice unwanted effects in the rest of the body as a result of using PATANOL® Eye Drops. These effects may include:

- headache
- weakness
- dizziness
- changes to sensation of taste
- dry nose
- dry mouth
- red, sore and inflamed skin rash
- nausea

If any of the following happen, stop using PATANOL Eye Drops and tell your doctor immediately or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital:

- skin rash
- swelling of the face, hands or feet
- wheezing, difficulty in breathing
- shortness of breath (dyspnoea, heart failure)
- severe and sudden onset of pinkish, itchy swellings on the skin, also called hives or nettle rash

These hypersensitivity reactions can be very serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalization. These side effects are very rare.

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some patients. Let your doctor know if you observe any unwanted effects while using PATANOL Eye Drops, even if they do not appear in the list above.

**Ingredients**

**Active ingredient:** Olopatadine

**Other ingredients:** Benzalkonium chloride, sodium chloride, sodium phosphate—dibasic dodecahydrate, water-purified

**Supplier**

In Australia, this product is supplied by:
Alcon Laboratories (Australia) Pty Ltd
25 Frenchs Forest Rd East
FRENCHS FOREST NSW 2086

**AUST R 82000**

In New Zealand, this product is distributed by:
Pharmaco (NZ) Ltd
4 Fisher Crescent
Auckland 1060

This leaflet was revised in July 2014.

**Product Description**

**What it looks like**

PATANOL Eye Drops are a colourless to pale yellow liquid that comes in a 5 mL DROP-TAINER bottle.