

Desonide 0.05% w/w (0.5mg/g) Cream/Lotion (DES-oh-nide)

What is this medication used for

Desonide is used to treat redness, swelling and itching that is associated with minor skin ailments such as eczema. It belongs to a group of medications called corticosteroids and has anti-inflammatory and anti-itching actions.

How to use this medication

Adults 18 years old and above

Desonide should be applied as a thin layer to the affected area 2 to 3 times a day (3 times a day if the skin problem is more severe) by gently rubbing the cream/lotion onto the skin. The amount of cream/lotion to be used depends on the size of the affected area. Avoid using excessive amounts of this product or applying it on large areas of skin. Wash and dry the whole area to be treated before applying the cream/lotion.

Do not use the cream/lotion on skin areas that have cuts or scrapes, or skin areas that are infected. Do not cover the treated area with a bandage or dressing unless your doctor has told you to do so. Wash your hands thoroughly after using the product and avoid contact with the eyes, mouth or nostrils. If the product comes into contact with any of these areas, rinse it off immediately with plenty of water.

Duration of use varies and you should discontinue use once your skin condition has resolved. You should consult a doctor if your condition has not resolved within 2 weeks.

Do not share the product with others even if they have similar signs and symptoms.

Before you use this medication

This cream/lotion should be avoided if you have a known history of allergy to desonide or any of the other listed ingredients in the product.

This medication should not be used by any children or adolescents below 18 years old unless prescribed by a doctor.

There is limited evidence with the use of desonide during pregnancy. Please seek your doctor's advice before using this medication if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Side effects

Common side effects: burning, itching, irritation, scaling or dryness of the skin at application site, acne, excessive hair growth, rashes around the mouth, allergic contact dermatitis, maceration of the skin, secondary skin infection may occur.

Less common side effects: skin thinning or change in skin colour may occur with prolonged or excessive use.

When to seek further medical advice

Inform your doctor and/or pharmacist immediately if you experience any allergic symptoms (e.g. rashes, itchiness, difficulty in breathing or swelling of the face, lips or areas around the eyes) or serious side effects due to this medication.

Consult a doctor if there are signs of infection at the site of application like redness, swelling, or discharge of pus.

Consult a doctor if your condition worsens or if you do not see any improvement in 2 weeks.

How should this medication be kept

Keep out of reach and sight of children.

Store in a cool dry place not exceeding 30°C.

