Olopatadine 0.1% (1mg/ml) Eye Drops (OH-loe-PAT-a-deen)

What is this medication used for

Olopatadine is used for the short-term symptomatic relief of allergic conjunctivitis (e.g. itchy or watery eyes). It belongs to a group of medications called anti-histamines. It works by stopping the effects of histamine, a chemical that causes the allergy symptoms.

How to use this medication

Adults and Children 3 years old and above

This medication is to be applied to the eyes only. Apply 1 drop into the affected eye(s) twice a day.

This eye drop contains a preservative, called benzalkonium chloride which may be deposited in soft contact lens, and cause eye irritation. Remove any contact lenses before applying the medicine. Wait for at least 15 minutes after application before reinserting the contact lenses. However, it is best to avoid wearing contact lenses if you are experiencing eye redness or itch.

Ensure proper administration technique: Wash and dry hands before and after application. To apply the eye drops, bend your head backwards and gently pull your lower eyelid down. Hold the dropper above one eye. Squeeze one drop into the pocket formed by gently pulling down of the lower eyelid. Ensure the dropper tip does not touch your eye or lashes. After application, release the eyelid, keep the eye closed and press the tip of one finger against the inner corner of the eye for around 1-2 minutes. This will prevent the drop from running through the tear duct into your throat and most of the drop will remain in the eye. If necessary, repeat these steps with the other eye. Allow at least 5 minutes between applications if other eye drops are to be used. Do not share your eye drops with anyone else.

If you forget or miss a dose, apply it as soon as you remember. If it is nearly time for the next application, skip the missed application and continue with the next dose at the usual time. Do not double the number of drops.

Before you use this medication

Do not use the eye drop if the solution is cloudy or changes color.

This eye drop should be avoided if you have a known history of allergy to olopatadine or any of the other listed ingredients in the product.

Please seek your doctor's or pharmacist's advice before using this medication if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Interactions with other medications

Be sure to inform your doctor and/or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or plan to take other medications (especially anti-depressants and anti-histamines), nutritional supplements or herbal products. Olopatadine may interact with the other medications you are taking.

Side effects

<u>Common side effects</u>: temporary burning or stinging sensation, eye discharge, eye pain, dry eye and itching may occur after applying the eye drop.

Avoid driving or operating machinery if you experience any blurred vision or drowsiness.

When to seek further medical advice

Stop using the eye drop and inform your doctor and/or pharmacist immediately if you experience any allergic symptoms (e.g. rashes, itchiness, difficulty in breathing or eye swelling) or side effects (e.g. eye pain/discomfort, vision changes, redness of the eye) or if the eye condition worsens or does not improve after 3 days of use.

How should this medication be kept

Keep out of reach and sight of children.

Store in a cool dry place.

Discard any remaining content of the eye drop 4 weeks after opening.

