The content of this leaflet was approved by the Ministry of Health in January 2018 and updated according to the guidelines of the Ministry of Health in March 2018.

1 NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Canesten Cream

2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Clotrimazole 1% w/w.

Excipient with known effect: Cetostearyl alcohol.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

A white cream for topical use.

4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

For the treatment of fungal infections of the skin and mucosa caused by dermatophytes, yeasts, moulds and other fungi such as Malassezia furfur as well as skin infections caused by Corynebacterium minutissimum. Indicated also for Candida vulvitis and Candida balanitis.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

There is no separate dosage schedule for the young or elderly.

The cream should be applied thinly 2-3 times daily and rubbed in gently. A strip of cream (½ cm long) is enough to treat an area of about the size of the hand. Treatment should be continued for at least one month for dermatophyte infections and at least two weeks for candidal infections.
If the feet are infected they should be washed and dried, especially between the toes, before applying the cream.

4.3 Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1. Do not use the cream to treat nail or scalp infections.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

This product contains cetostearyl alcohol, which may cause local skin reactions (e.g. contact dermatitis).

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Laboratory tests have suggested that, when used together, this product may cause damage to latex contraceptives. Consequently the effectiveness of such contraceptives may be reduced. Patients should be advised to use alternative precautions for at least five days after using this product.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Fertility:
No human studies of the effects of clotrimazole on fertility have been performed; however, animal studies have not demonstrated any effects of the drug on fertility.

Pregnancy:
There is a limited amount of data from the use of clotrimazole in pregnant women. Animal studies with clotrimazole have shown reproductive toxicity at high oral doses (see section 5.3). At the low systemic exposures of clotrimazole following topical treatment, harmful effects with respect to reproductive toxicity are not predicted. Clotrimazole can be used during pregnancy, but only under the supervision of a physician.

Lactation:
Available pharmacodynamic/toxicological data in animals have shown excretion of clotrimazole/metabolites in milk after intravenous administration (see section 5.3). A risk to the suckling child cannot be excluded. A decision must be made whether to discontinue breast-feeding or to discontinue/abstain from clotrimazole therapy taking into account the benefit of breast-feeding for the child and the benefit of therapy for the woman.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Clotrimazole cream has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive or use machines.

4.8 Undesirable effects

As the listed undesirable effects are based on spontaneous reports, assigning an accurate frequency of occurrence for each is not possible.

Immune system disorders: allergic reaction (syncope, hypotension, dyspnoea, urticaria).

Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders: blisters, discomfort/pain, oedema, erythema, irritation, peeling/exfoliation, pruritus, rash, stinging/burning.

Reporting suspected adverse reactions
The reporting of suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Any suspected adverse events should be reported to the Ministry of Health according to the National Regulations by using an online form at: https://sideeffects.health.gov.il

4.9 Overdose

No risk of acute intoxication is seen as it is unlikely to occur following a single dermal application of an overdose (application over a large area under conditions favourable to absorption) or inadvertent oral ingestion. There is no specific antidote.

However, in the event of accidental oral ingestion, gastric lavage is rarely required and should be considered only if a life-threatening amount of Clotrimazole has been ingested within the preceding hour or if clinical symptoms of overdose become apparent (e.g. dizziness, nausea or vomiting). Gastric lavage should be carried out only if the airway can be protected adequately.

5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Antifungals for topical use – imidazole and triazole derivatives

ATC Code: D01A C01

Mechanism of Action

Clotrimazole acts against fungi by inhibiting ergosterol synthesis. Inhibition of ergosterol synthesis leads to structural and functional impairment of the fungal cytoplasmic membrane.

Clotrimazole has a broad antimycotic spectrum of action *in vitro* and *in vivo*, which includes dermatophytes, yeasts, moulds, etc.

Under appropriate test conditions, the MIC values for these types of fungi are in the region of less than 0.062-8.0 µg/ml substrate. The mode of action of clotrimazole is primarily fungistatic or fungicidal depending on the concentration of clotrimazole at the site of infection. *In vitro* activity is limited to proliferating fungal elements; fungal spores are only slightly sensitive.

In addition to its antimycotic action, clotrimazole also acts on gram-positive microorganisms (Streptococci / Staphylococci / Gardnerella vaginalis), and gram- negative microorganisms (Bacteroides).

In vitro clotrimazole inhibits the multiplication of Corynebacteria and gram-positive cocci - with the exception of Enterococci - in concentrations of 0.5-10 µg/ml substrate.

Primarily resistant variants of sensitive fungal species are very rare; the development of secondary resistance by sensitive fungi has so far only been observed in very isolated cases under therapeutic conditions.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Pharmacokinetic investigations after dermal application have shown that clotrimazole is minimally absorbed from the intact or inflamed skin into the human blood circulation. The resulting peak serum concentrations of clotrimazole were below the detection limit of 0.001 mcg/ml, suggesting that clotrimazole applied topically is unlikely to lead to measurable systemic effects or side effects.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

Non-clinical data reveal no special hazard for humans based on studies of repeated dose toxicity, genotoxicity and carcinogenicity.

Clotrimazole was not teratogenic in reproductive toxicity studies in mice, rats and rabbits. In rats high oral doses were associated with maternal toxicity, embryotoxicity, reduced foetal weights and decreased pup survival.

In rats clotrimazole and/or its metabolites were secreted into milk at levels higher than in plasma by a factor of 10 to 20 at 4 hrs after administration, followed by a decline to a factor of 0.4 by 24 hrs.

6 PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Purified water
Octyldodecanol
Cetostearyl alcohol
Cetyl palmitate
Benzyl Alcohol
Sorbitan stearate
Polysorbate 60

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

6.3 Shelf life

The expiry date of the product is indicated on the packaging materials.
After first opening, use within 3 months.

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Store below 30°C.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

The white cream is filled into aluminium tubes with screw-on caps and enclosed in an outer carton. Pack sizes available are 20g and 30g. Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal

No special requirements.

6.7 Manufacturer

Kern Pharma S.L., Spain.

6.8 Registration number in Israeli National Drug Registry:

149-44-33680-00

6.9 MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Bayer Israel Ltd., 36 Hacharash St., Hod HaSharon, 45240