

# TRIDERM® CREAM

## **Composition**

*Active substances:* betamethasone (as dipropionate); clotrimazole, gentamicin (as sulphate)

*Excipients with known effect:*

Propylene glycol –10.0% w/w, cetostearyl alcohol –7.2% w/w, benzyl alcohol –1.0% w/w

*Excipients:*

White soft paraffin, propylene glycol, cetostearyl alcohol, liquid paraffin, cetomacrogol 1000, benzyl alcohol, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dehydrate, phosphoric acid, sodium hydroxide, purified water.

## **Pharmaceutical form and active substance quantity per unit**

1 gram of TRIDERM Cream contains: 0.643 mg betamethasone dipropionate, equivalent to 0.5 mg betamethasone, 10.00 mg clotrimazole and 1.00 mg gentamicin (as sulfate).

## **Therapeutic Indications**

TRIDERM Cream is indicated for the treatment of corticosteroid-responsive dermatoses when complicated by infections caused by bacteria (sensitive to gentamicin) and fungi (sensitive to clotrimazole) or when the possibility of such infections is suspected. The cream is suitable for the use of oozing eczema.

## **Posology and Method of Administration**

### **General**

N/A

### **Dose**

A thin film of TRIDERM Cream should be applied to cover completely the affected and surrounding skin areas twice daily, in the morning and at night. For treatment to be effective, TRIDERM Cream should be applied regularly.

### **Duration of Treatment**

Duration of therapy varies depending upon the extent and location of disease and patient response. However, if clinical improvement is not achieved by three to four weeks, diagnosis should be reviewed.

### **Method of Administration**

**FOR DERMATOLOGIC USE ONLY**

## **Contraindications**

Skin infections [of viral, bacterial (incl. TB) and fungal aetiology], vaccine reactions, skin ulcers and acne are contraindicated in the case of locally applied corticosteroids. Facial application is not recommended in the presence of rosacea or perioral dermatitis.

Hypersensitivity to the active substances or to any of the excipients used in the preparation, other aminoglycoside antibiotics (cross allergy to gentamicin) or imidazole derivatives (cross allergy to clotrimazole).

TRIDERM Cream is not indicated for use beneath occlusive dressings.

TRIDERM Cream should not be applied to mucous membranes, to the eyes or the area surrounding the eyes.

## **Warnings and precautions**

If irritation or sensitization develops with the use of TRIDERM Cream, treatment should be discontinued and appropriate therapy instituted.

When applied topically, systemic absorption of the active substances may be increased if TRIDERM Cream is used extensively, particularly during prolonged use or if applied to damaged skin. Under such conditions, undesirable effects, which are seen following systemic application of the active substances, may occur. In such cases, particular caution is recommended in pediatric use.

During concomitant systemic administration of aminoglycoside antibiotics, it should be remembered that, in cases of increased dermal absorption, a cumulative toxic effect (ototoxicity, nephrotoxicity) is likely.

In particular, a possible cross reaction with other aminoglycoside antibiotics should be taken into consideration.

During long-term treatment with preparations containing antibiotics, non-susceptible microorganisms may develop. In such an event or at the onset of a superinfection appropriate treatment should be instituted.

High-dose, extensive or occlusive application of potent or highly-potent corticosteroids should only take place under regular, medical supervision; particularly in regard to the suppression of endogenous corticosteroid production and a possible metabolic effect.

Application onto open wounds and damaged skin should be avoided.

A period of 2-3 weeks' continuous treatment should preferably not be exceeded. Highly-potent, potent and medium-dose corticosteroids should be used with caution in the facial and genital region; treatment should not exceed one week in such cases.

Generally speaking, only low-dose corticosteroids should be used around the eyes (due to the risk of glaucoma).

Corticosteroids may mask the symptoms of an allergic reaction to one of the product ingredients.

The patient should be instructed to use the product solely in the treatment of his/her current skin condition, and not to pass it on to others.

Visual disturbance may occur with systemic and topical (including, intranasal, inhaled and intraocular) use of corticosteroid. If a patient appears with symptoms such as blurred vision or other visual disturbances, the patient should be considered for referral to an ophthalmologist for evaluation of possible causes of the visual disturbances; these include among others cataract, glaucoma or rare diseases for example such as central serous chorioretinopathy (CSCR) which have been reported after use of systemic and topical corticosteroids.

The medicinal product may cause a localised skin reaction (e.g. contact dermatitis) due to the presence of cetostearyl alcohol.

This medicinal product contains propylene glycol 100 mg in each gram of the cream. The medicinal product may cause skin irritation due to the presence of propylene glycol. This medicinal product should not be applied to areas of skin with open wounds or extensive skin damage (e.g., burns).

This medicinal product contains benzyl alcohol 10 mg in each gram of the cream. Benzyl alcohol may cause allergic reactions or mild local irritation.

#### *Use in pediatric patients*

When compared with adults, pediatric patients may demonstrate greater susceptibility to hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis suppression (induced by topical corticosteroids) and to exogenous corticosteroid effects, as absorption in children is greater due to the higher skin surface area to body weight ratio.

HPA axis suppression, Cushing's syndrome, linear growth retardation, delayed weight gain, and intracranial hypertension have been reported in children receiving topical corticosteroids. Symptoms of adrenal suppression in children include low plasma cortisol levels and absence of response to ACTH stimulation. Symptoms of intracranial hypertension include bulging fontanelles, headache, and bilateral papilledema.

## **Interactions**

When TRIDERM Cream is used in the genital or anal region, the presence of petroleum jelly and liquid paraffin (excipients used in the product) may diminish the tear resistance of concomitantly used latex condoms, thereby compromising their safety when in use.

Clotrimazole, when applied topically, may have an antagonistic effect with regard to amphotericin and other polyene antibiotics.

## **Pregnancy and Lactation**

### *Pregnancy*

In animal studies, topical application of corticosteroids was shown to have a teratogenic effect. There are no data on its use in human pregnancies.

Aminoglycosides cross the placental barrier and may harm the foetus if administered to pregnant women. There have been reports of total, irreversible, bilateral, congenital deafness in infants whose mothers received aminoglycosides (including gentamicin) during pregnancy. Sufficient data on the use of topically applied gentamicin during pregnancy is lacking.

Sufficient data on the use of clotrimazole during pregnancy is lacking. Animal studies have not demonstrated any risks with regard to the foetus (see section "Preclinical data").

TRIDERM Cream should only be used in cases where it is absolutely necessary. TRIDERM Cream should not be used extensively, in large amounts or over prolonged periods of time.

### *Lactation*

It is not known whether gentamicin, clotrimazole and topically applied corticosteroids pass into breast milk. However, systemically available corticosteroids are excreted in breast milk.

If applied to the breasts, TRIDERM Cream may not be used by nursing mothers.

## **Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

The effect on the ability to drive and operate machinery has not been studied.

## **Undesirable Effects**

### *Initiation of treatment*

### *Skin*

*Rare:* irritations, burning sensations, pruritus, skin dryness, hypersensitivity reactions to one of the ingredients used in the product and skin discoloration.

### *Extensive, occlusive and/or prolonged use*

During extensive, occlusive and/or prolonged use, local skin changes may occur. During extensive use, systemic effects (adrenal suppression) may occur.

It should be remembered that patients are at greater risk of developing secondary infections as a result of diminished local resistance to infection.

### *Skin*

Localised skin changes such as atrophy (particularly facial), telangiectasia, striae, striae distensae, cutaneous bleeding, purpura, steroid acne, rosacea-like/ perioral dermatitis, hypertrichosis and skin discoloration. It is not known whether the skin discoloration is reversible.

Uncommon: contact sensitisation to gentamicin.

Possible photosensitisation was observed in some patients; however, it was impossible to reproduce this effect when gentamicin was reapplied, with subsequent exposure to UV irradiation.

### *Endocrine system*

Endogenous corticosteroid synthesis suppression; overactive adrenal glands with oedema.

### *Metabolism*

Manifestation of latent diabetes mellitus.

### *Eye disorders*

Blurred vision

### *Ear, inner ear/ renal*

In cases of concomitant systemic administration of aminoglycoside antibiotics, cumulative ototoxicity/ nephrotoxicity can be expected if TRIDERM Cream used extensively or on damaged skin.

### *Musculoskeletal system*

Osteoporosis, growth retardation (in children).

### Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting 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 Regulation by using an online form

<https://sideeffects.health.gov.il>

## Overdose

### *Symptoms:*

Excessive or prolonged use of topical corticosteroids may lead to a suppression of the pituitary-adrenal function, and may cause secondary adrenal insufficiency and symptoms of adrenal cortex hyperactivity, including Cushing's syndrome.

It cannot be excluded that a single excessive dose of gentamicin might induce such symptoms. Excessive and prolonged use of topically applied gentamicin may lead to an increased growth of fungi or non-susceptible bacteria at the site of skin lesions.

### *Treatment:*

Appropriate symptomatic treatment is indicated. Acute symptoms of adrenal cortex hyperactivity are usually reversible. Electrolyte imbalances should be treated where required. In cases of chronic toxicity, withdrawal of corticosteroids should be gradual.

If overgrowth by non-susceptible microorganisms occurs, stop treatment with TRIDERM Cream and institute appropriate antimycotic or antibacterial therapy.

## Properties/ Effects

ATC code

D07XC

### *Mechanism of Action*

TRIDERM Cream combines three modes of action, i.e. the anti-inflammatory action of betamethasone dipropionate, the antibacterial effect of gentamicin and the antimycotic effect of clotrimazole.

### *Pharmacodynamics*

Betamethasone dipropionate is a potent (Class III) corticosteroid, with an anti-inflammatory, anti-allergic and antipruritic effect.

Gentamicin is an aminoglycoside antibiotic with a bactericidal action. It acts by inhibiting protein synthesis in susceptible bacteria. Gentamicin is active against many aerobic gram-negative and a few gram-positive bacteria. *In vitro*, gentamicin concentrations of 1-8 µg/mL inhibit most susceptible strains of *Escherichia coli*, *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Moraxella lacunata*, *Neisseria*, indole-positive and indole-negative *Proteus*, *Pseudomonas* (incl. most *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* strains), *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Staphylococcus epidermidis* and *Serratia*. Various species and strains of the same species may exhibit major differences in terms of *in vitro* susceptibility. Furthermore, *in vitro* susceptibility does not always correlate with *in vivo* susceptibility. Gentamicin is ineffective against most anaerobic bacteria, fungi and

viruses. Gentamicin is only minimally effective against streptococci. Resistance to gentamicin may develop in both gram-negative and gram-positive bacteria.

Clotrimazole is a synthetic, imidazole-type antimycotic. Its spectrum of activity includes a range of fungi that are pathogenic to humans and animals. Clotrimazole is effective against dermatophytes, yeasts and moulds. During *in vitro* tests, clotrimazole was shown to be effective against *Trichophyton rubrum*, *Trichophyton mentagrophytes*, *Epidermophyton floccosum*, *Microsporum canis* and *Candida* (including *Candida albicans*). On the basis of current knowledge, the antimycotic effect of Clotrimazole is based on the inhibition of ergosterol synthesis. Ergosterol is an essential component of fungal cell membranes.

#### *Clinical efficacy*

Not applicable

#### **Pharmacokinetics**

No penetration or absorption studies have been performed on this medicinal product.

#### *Absorption*

##### *Betamethasone*

Its penetration and permeation rate depend on the site of application, skin condition, the galenic formulation being used, patient age and method of application.

##### *Gentamicin*

Absorption need hardly be considered when gentamicin is used on intact skin. However, increased percutaneous absorption should be taken into consideration in cases of keratin layer loss, inflammations and occlusive/ extensive application.

##### *Clotrimazole*

Following application, systemic absorption is low, with the majority of clotrimazole remaining in the stratum corneum. The following concentrations were observed at 6 hours following application of 1 % radioactive clotrimazole on intact and acutely inflamed skin: stratum corneum = 100 mcg/cm<sup>3</sup>, reticular layer = 0.5-1 mcg/cm<sup>3</sup>, subcutis = 0.1 mcg/cm<sup>3</sup>.

#### *Distribution*

Under normal conditions, only a fraction of the locally applied amount of betamethasone is systemically available.

#### *Metabolism*

Not applicable

### *Elimination*

Not applicable

### **Preclinical data**

#### *Betamethasone*

Corticosteroid studies using animal models have shown that bethamethasone is toxic to reproduction (cleft palate, skeletal malformations).

In reproduction toxicity studies on rats, prolonged gestation, prolonged labour and dystocia were recorded. Furthermore, a reduction in offspring survival was observed, as well as decreased body weight and a reduction in weight gain. There was no evidence of impaired fertility.

Mutagenicity and carcinogenicity have not been studied.

#### *Gentamicin*

In studies to evaluate the chronic toxicity of gentamicin, nephrotoxic and ototoxic effects have been observed in various species. To date, mutagenicity studies have revealed no mutagenic potential for the product; however, current data do not allow any definitive risk evaluation to be made. There have been no long-term studies on animals to evaluate the carcinogenic potential of the substance.

#### *Clotrimazole*

Studies on animal models have revealed no mutagenic, teratogenic or embryotoxic properties.

### **Other information**

#### *Shelf life*

The expiry date of the product is indicated on the packaging materials.

Shelf life after first opening: 3 months.

#### *Special precautions for storage*

Store below 25°C.

Keep out of the reach and sight of children.

### **Authorisation number**

105-13-28792

### **Packs**

15 g and 30 g tubes

### **Manufacturer:**



Schering-Plough Labo N.V., Heist-Op-Den-Berg, Belgium

**Marketing Authorisation Holder**

Merck Sharp & Dohme (Israel- 1996) Company Ltd.,  
P.O.Box 7121, Petach- Tikva 49170.

Revised in June 2021 according to MOHs guidelines.