

Package leaflet: Information for the patient
Elocon® 0.1% w/w Cream
(mometasone furoate)

Your product is known as the above but will be referred to as Elocon throughout the remainder of this leaflet.

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See Section 4.

What is in this leaflet:

1. What Elocon is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you use Elocon
3. How to use Elocon
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Elocon
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Elocon is and what it is used for

Elocon Cream is one of a group of medicines called topical corticosteroids. These medicines are put on the surface of the skin to reduce the redness and itchiness caused by certain skin problems. Corticosteroid creams, ointments and other topical preparations come in four different potencies or strengths. These are known as mild, moderately potent, potent or very potent. Healthcare professionals will usually refer to topical corticosteroid potency rather than strength. A potent or strong corticosteroid has a much stronger effect than a mild corticosteroid when using the same amount. The percentage of active ingredient that is sometimes included on product packaging does not indicate potency. Elocon is classed as a strong corticosteroid. Your healthcare professional will prescribe or advise a steroid of the appropriate potency for your condition.

In adults and children, Elocon Cream is used to reduce redness and itchiness caused by certain skin problems called psoriasis or dermatitis.

Psoriasis is a skin disease in which itchy, scaly, pink patches develop on the elbows, knees, scalp and other parts of the body. Dermatitis is a condition brought on by the skin reacting to outside agents e.g. detergents, causing the skin to become red and itchy.

2. What you need to know before you use Elocon

Do not use Elocon if you have any of the following:

- an allergy (hypersensitivity) to mometasone furoate, any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6) or to other similar medicines.
- any other skin problems as it could make them worse especially:
 - rosacea (a skin condition affecting the face)
 - acne
 - skin atrophy (thinning of the skin)
 - dermatitis around the mouth
 - genital itching
 - nappy rash
 - cold sores
 - chickenpox
 - shingles
 - warts
 - ulcerated skin
 - wounds
 - other skin infections

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Warnings and Precautions

Contact your doctor if your psoriasis gets worse or you get raised bumps filled with pus under your skin.

Contact your doctor immediately if you experience blurred vision or other visual disturbances.

If your skin becomes irritated or sensitive after using Elocon, you should stop using it and tell your doctor.

If you think that you have developed an infection on your skin while using Elocon, you should tell your doctor.

Side effects that may happen with inhaled or oral corticosteroids may also occur with corticosteroids used on the skin, especially in infants and children.

If you use more than the correct amount of cream and/or use it for longer than is recommended, it can affect the levels of certain hormones in the body, particularly in infants and children.

In adults the changes in hormone levels may lead rarely to puffiness or rounding of the face, weakness, tiredness, and dizziness when standing or sitting down.

Do not smoke or go near naked flames – risk of severe burns. Fabric (clothing, bedding, dressings etc) that has been in contact with this product burns more easily and is a serious fire hazard. Washing clothing and bedding may reduce product build-up but not totally remove it.

If there is a worsening of your condition during use consult your prescriber – you may be experiencing an allergic reaction, have an infection or your condition requires a different treatment.

If you experience a recurrence of your condition shortly after stopping treatment, within 2 weeks, do not restart using the cream without consulting your prescriber unless your prescriber has previously advised you to do so. If your condition has resolved and on recurrence the redness extends beyond the initial treatment area and you experience a burning sensation, please seek medical advice before restarting treatment.

Children

If more than the correct amount of cream is used and/or it is used for longer than is recommended, it can affect the child's hormones. This may lead to:

- Delayed growth and development
- A moon face or rounding of the face

Other medicines and Elocon

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are using, have recently used or might use any other medicines.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

You should tell your doctor if you are pregnant or breast-feeding, before you start using Elocon.

3. How to use Elocon

Always use Elocon exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Use in children

Elocon is not recommended for children under the age of 2.

How much to use

Usually for adults and children aged 2 and above, a thin layer of Elocon Cream should be gently rubbed into the affected area of skin once a day.

Before using Elocon

You should always follow these instructions when using Elocon:

- Do not use the cream on your face for more than 5 days.
- Do not apply the cream to children, on any part of their body, for more than 5 days.
- Do not put the cream under your child's nappy, as this makes it easier for the active drug to pass through the skin and possibly cause some unwanted effects.
- You should check with your doctor before covering the treated areas with a bandage or plaster. Treated areas on the face or in children should not be covered with a bandage or plaster.