

## *Betamethasone valerate & Clioquinol*

# **BETACREAM-C<sup>®</sup>**

### **Composition:**

Betamethasone valerate	0.1% w/w
Clioquinol	3 % w/w
Chlorocresol (as Preservative)	0.1% w/w

Betamethasone Valerate/Clioquinol is a medicine which is used in inflammatory skin conditions where infection is also present.

Betamethasone Valerate/Clioquinol is used to treat skin problems caused by inflammation and infection of the skin. Clioquinol can help to treat certain types of skin infections. Betamethasone valerate reduces inflammation and can help to relieve the symptoms of inflammatory skin problems.

When betamethasone is applied to the skin it works by acting inside the skin cells to decrease the release of these inflammatory substances. This reduces swelling, redness and itch. Betamethasone is a potent corticosteroid that is applied to the skin to treat a wide variety of inflammatory skin diseases, such as eczema.

Clioquinol (Iodochlorhydroxyquin) is an antifungal drug and antiprotozoal drug. It is neurotoxic in large doses. It is a member of a family of drugs called hydroxyquinolines which inhibit certain enzymes related to DNA replication. The drugs have been found to have activity against both viral and protozoal infections

Betamethasone is a synthetic corticosteroid that is used topically (on the skin). Betamethasone mimics the action of cortisol (hydrocortisone), the naturally-occurring steroid produced in the body by the adrenal glands. Corticosteroids have potent anti-inflammatory actions and also suppress the immune response. Corticosteroids have many effects on the body, but they most often are used for their potent anti-inflammatory effects, particularly in those conditions in which the immune system plays an important role. The FDA approved betamethasone in July 1983.

### **Mechanism of Action**

When betamethasone is applied to the skin it works by acting inside the skin cells to decrease the release of these inflammatory substances. And clioquinol shows its effect probably due to its iodine contains. Although the mechanism of action of topical iodine is not fully understood, it is thought that the medication's antimicrobial effects may be due to the presence of the diatomic elemental form of iodine (free iodine). It is believed that iodine precipitates the proteins of the microorganisms by forming salts.

**Indications:**

**BETACREAM-C** can be used to treat

- An eruption of hard nodules in the skin accompanied by intense itching (prurigo nodularis)
- Eczema
- Infected insect bites
- Inflammation of the skin around the genitals or anus, caused by skin surfaces rubbing together (genital or perianal intertrigo)
- Inflammation or irritation of the skin caused by a reaction to irritants (contact dermatitis)
- Inflammatory skin condition with greasy, red and scaly areas (seborrhoeic dermatitis)
- Inflammatory skin disease known as discoid lupus erythematosus (DLE)
- Psoriasis
- Thickened skin rash caused by excessive scratching to relieve itching (neurodermatitis)

**Directions for use:**

It is usually applied one to four times a day. Follow the directions on your prescription label carefully, and ask your doctor or pharmacist to explain any part you do not understand. Use **BETACREAM** exactly as directed. Do not use more or less of it or use it more often than prescribed by your doctor. Do not apply it to other areas of your body or wrap or bandage the treated area unless directed to do so by your doctor.

Wash or soak the affected area thoroughly before applying the medicine, unless it irritates your skin. Then apply the ointment or cream sparingly in a thin film and rub it in gently.

Apply the missed dose as soon as you remember it. However, if it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and continue your regular dosing schedule. Do not apply a double dose to make up for a missed one.

**Side effects:**

Possible side effects of Betacream-C Cream may include:

- Thinning of the skin
- Changes in skin pigmentation
- Stretch marks
- Excessive hair growth (hypertrichosis)
- Slight widening of the veins in the skin, especially the face

**Warning!**

- This medicine is for external use on the skin only.
- This medicine should be applied thinly and evenly to the affected area(s) as directed by your doctor.
- Wash your hands thoroughly after applying this medicine, unless the hands are the area being treated.

- Avoid contact of this medicine with open wounds and with the eyes and the moist membranes lining the inside of certain parts of the body, eg mouth, nasal passages (mucous membranes). Rinse with cold water if accidental contact occurs.
- If your doctor has advised you to use dressings with this medicine, the skin should be cleansed before reapplying the cream under a fresh dressing.
- If corticosteroids are used long term, on large areas of skin, raw skin, skin folds, or under airtight dressings (including nappies) they are absorbed into the body more. This increases the risk of local side effects such as skin thinning, and those on other parts of the body, such as a decrease in the production of natural hormones by the adrenal glands. For this reason, continuous, long-term use of this medicine should be avoided wherever possible, particularly in children and on large areas of skin. You should only use airtight dressings over the affected area if instructed by your doctor.
- This medicine should not be used for longer than five days on the face or in children.
- Consult your doctor if your symptoms don't improve, or get worse in the first seven days of treatment. Do not use this medicine for longer than five days without consulting your doctor.
- This preparation may stain skin, hair and fabric. You can protect clothes by covering the treated area with a non-airtight cotton bandage or piece of clean cloth.
- If you think the area of skin you are treating has become infected you should stop using this medicine and consult your doctor.

## Not to be used in

- Fungal skin infections, eg athlete's foot, ringworm, candida skin infections.
- Viral skin infections such as chickenpox or herpes simplex.
- Tuberculosis affecting the skin.
- Acne rosacea.
- Acne vulgaris.
- Inflammatory rash around the mouth (perioral dermatitis).
- Skin ulcers.
- Itchy skin around the genitals or anus.
- Children under one year old.
- Widespread plaque psoriasis.
- Areas of skin that are very thin and fragile or have broken veins.

If you feel you have experienced an allergic reaction, stop using this medicine and inform your doctor or pharmacist immediately.

## Pregnancy and breastfeeding

*Certain medicines should not be used during pregnancy or breastfeeding. However, other medicines may be safely used in pregnancy or breastfeeding providing the benefits to the mother outweigh the risks to the unborn baby.*

*Always inform your doctor if you are pregnant or planning a pregnancy, before using any medicine.*

- This medicine should not be used during pregnancy unless considered essential by your doctor. If it is prescribed by your doctor it should not be used on large areas of skin, underneath airtight dressings, or for prolonged periods of time. Consult your doctor for further information.
- This medicine should not be used during breastfeeding unless considered essential by your doctor. If it is prescribed by your doctor it should not be used on large areas of skin, underneath airtight dressings or for prolonged periods of time. If it is applied to the breasts it should be washed off carefully before breastfeeding and then reapplied afterwards.

**STORAGE:**

Keep this medication in the container it came in, tightly closed, and out of reach of children. Store it in cool & dark place. DO NOT FREEZE.

**Presentation**

20 gm Tube

For further information, please contact:

**Market Planning Department**

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