

# BENZAC<sup>®</sup> AC 5% GEL

Benzoyl Peroxide (5% w/w)

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## What Benzac AC 5% Gel is used for

Benzac AC 5% Gel is used for treating common acne.

## How Benzac AC 5% Gel works

Benzac AC 5% Gel contains active ingredient benzoyl peroxide, which is an effective topical treatment for acne. It works as an antibacterial agent that targets the *Propionibacterium acnes* bacteria that contribute to acne and causes mild drying and peeling of the skin, which helps reduce blackheads and other acne blemishes.

## Before you use Benzac AC 5% Gel

### - When you must not use it

Do not use this medicine if:

- you are allergic to benzoyl peroxide or any other ingredients of this medicine (listed in Product Description)

### - Before you start to use it

This gel is not to be used in children.

### *Pregnancy and lactation*

Please consult your doctor or pharmacist if you are pregnant, planning for pregnancy or breastfeeding before using any medicine.

Benzac AC 5% Gel should only be used if your doctor says it is clearly necessary.

It is not known if the gel passes into breast milk or not, so nursing mothers should be cautious while using this gel. Also, mothers should avoid applying the gel on the chest to prevent it from

accidentally transferring to the nursing baby.

### - Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you buy without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

You should not use this gel at the same time as other skin products that cause skin peeling, irritation, or dryness.

## How to use Benzac AC 5% Gel

### - How much to use

Make sure your skin is clean and dry before you apply the gel.

Apply a thin layer of gel to cover the affected areas.

It is recommended to start with a lower strength, like the 2.5% or 5% gel.

### - When to use it

Apply once or twice daily.

If you have sensitive skin, you should apply the gel only once a day, preferably before you go to bed.

### - How long to use it

Use Benzac AC 5% Gel for as long as your doctor recommends.

If you are using the 5% gel and it is not giving you the results you want, you can talk to your doctor about starting with the higher percentage gel.

During the first few weeks, a sudden increase in peeling is common. This is not harmful and will usually go away in a day or two if you temporarily stop using the treatment.

### - If you forget to use it

Apply the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to apply the medicine and skip the missed dose. Do not apply a double dose to make up for the missed dose.

### - If you use too much (overdose)

Contact your doctor immediately or go to the Emergency Department of your nearest hospital, if you or anyone else may have used too much of this

medicine. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.

Applying the gel excessively will not lead to faster or improved results and may cause severe skin irritation. If this happens, you should stop using the gel. Once the symptoms have gone away, you can cautiously try using the gel again with a reduced dosage if the reaction was due to overuse and not an allergy.

## While you are using Benzac AC 5% Gel

### - Things you must do

Tell all the doctors and pharmacists treating you that you are using Benzac AC 5% Gel.

Tell your doctor immediately if you become pregnant while using this medication.

### - Things you must not do

Avoid contact with the eyes, eyelids, mouth, nostrils, and other mucous membranes. If the gel accidentally comes into contact with these areas, rinse thoroughly with water.

Do not apply the gel on damaged skin, as this may cause irritation or sensitivity.

Do not use any new medicines without consulting your doctor or pharmacist.

Do not give Benzac AC 5% Gel to anyone else, even if they have the same symptoms or condition as you.

### - Things to be careful of

When you first start using the gel, you might feel a mild burning sensation, and your skin may become red and start peeling within a few days.

If you experience severe irritation, skin swelling or blisters, stop using and see doctor immediately.

Benzoyl peroxide can bleach or discolor colored materials, including hair and fabric.

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## Side effects

Like all medicines, Benzac AC 5% Gel can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Possible side effects are:

### Very common

- Dry skin
- Erythema (redness of the skin)
- Skin exfoliation (peeling)
- Skin burning sensation

### Common

- Pruritus (itching)
- Pain of skin (pain, stinging)
- Skin irritation (irritant contact dermatitis)

### Uncommon

- Allergic contact dermatitis (Itchy rash caused by allergic reaction to substance contacted)

### Unknown

- Swelling of the face
- Allergic reactions, including hypersensitivity at the application site
- Severe allergic reactions such as anaphylaxis

Visit your doctor or pharmacist immediately if you experience any side effects after using this medicine.

You may report any side effects or adverse drug reactions directly to the National Centre for Adverse Drug Reaction Monitoring by visiting the website [npa.gov.my](http://npa.gov.my) [Consumers → Reporting Side Effects to Medicines (ConSERF) or Vaccines (AEFI)].

## Storage and Disposal of Benzac AC 5% Gel

### - Storage

Store below 25°C.

Keep out of reach of children.

Do not use this product after the expiry date.

### - Disposal

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste.

Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

## Product Description

### - What it looks like

Benzac AC 5% Gel is a white, smooth, and homogeneous gel without particles, packaged in white tubes fitted with white screw caps.

### - Ingredients

#### - Active ingredient

Benzoyl Peroxide 5% w/w

#### - Inactive ingredient

Carbomer 940, disodium edetate, docusate sodium, silica colloidal anhydrous, propylene glycol, poloxamer 182, sodium hydroxide, glycerol, acrylates copolymer, purified water.

### - MAL number

MAL19984074XRZ

## Manufacturer

Laboratoires Galderma, ZI-Montdesir  
74540 Alby-sur-Cheran, France.

## Product Registration Holder

Galderma Malaysia Sdn Bhd  
Unit 904, Level 9, Uptown One, Jalan  
SS21/58, Damansara Utama, 47400,  
Petaling Jaya, Malaysia.

## Date of revision

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