SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

MEDOVIR 5% w/w cream

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Aciclovir
Each 5g or 10g tube of cream contains aciclovir 5% w/w.
Excipients with known effect: propylene glycol and cetostearyl alcohol.
For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Cream
White, soft, homogenous, smooth, odourless cream for cutaneous use.

4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1. Therapeutic indications

MEDOVIR cream is indicated for the treatment of *herpes simplex* virus infections of the skin, including initial and recurrent herpes. Not for ophthalmic use.

4.2. Posology and method of administration

Posology

The cream should be applied five times a day, at every three to four hour intervals, but missing the night time application. It should be continued for five days. If healing is not complete at this time, treatment may be continued for an additional five days. It is better to apply MEDOVIR cream in the very early stages of infection.

4.3. Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to the active substance, valaciclovir or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1

4.4. Special warnings and precautions for use

MEDOVIR cream is not recommended for application to mucous membranes such as in the mouth, eye or vagina, as it may be irritant. Particular care should be taken to avoid accidental introduction into the eye.

The results of a wide range of mutagenicity tests *in vitro* and *in vivo* indicate that aciclovir does not pose a genetic risk to man. Aciclovir was not found to be carcinogenic in long term studies in the rat and the mouse.

There has been no experience of the effect of aciclovir cream on human fertility. Two generation studies in mice did not reveal any effect of (orally administered) aciclovir on fertility. Aciclovir tablets have been shown to have no definite effect upon sperm count, morphology or motility in man.

4.5. Interactions with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Probenecid increases the mean half-life and area under the plasma concentration curve of systemically administered aciclovir. However, this is likely to be of little relevance to the topical application of aciclovir.

4.6. Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

A post marketing aciclovir pregnancy registry has documented pregnancy outcome in women exposed to any formulation of aciclovir. The birth defects described amongst aciclovir exposed subjects have not shown any uniqueness of consistent pattern to suggest a common cause.

Caution should however be exercised by balancing the potential benefits of treatment against any possible hazard.

Breast-feeding

Following oral administration of 200mg aciclovir five times a day aciclovir has been detected in breast milk at concentration ranging from 0.6 to 4.1 times the corresponding plasma levels. These levels would potentially expose nursing infants to aciclovir dosages of up to 0.3 mg/kg/day. Caution is therefore advised if aciclovir is to be administered to a nursing woman.

Systemic administration of aciclovir in internationally accepted standard tests did not produce embryotoxic or teratogenic effects in rats, rabbits or mice.

In a non-standard test in rats, foetal abnormalities were observed but only following such high subcutaneous doses that maternal toxicity was produced. The clinical relevance of these findings is uncertain. Limited human data show that the drug does pass into breast milk following systemic administration.

4.7. Effects on ability to drive and use machines

None known

4.8. Undesirable effects

Immune system disorders

- *Very rare:* Immediate hypersensitivity reactions including angioedema.

Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders

- *Uncommon:* Transient burning or stinging following application of the Cream, mild drying or flaking of the skin, itching

- *Rare:* Erythema, Contact dermatitis following application. Where sensitivity tests have been conducted, the reactive substances have most often been shown to be components of the cream rather than aciclovir.

4.9. Overdose

Symptoms

The absorption of aciclovir is only partial in the gastro-intestinal tract. Oral doses of 4g total daily have been administered over seven days without toxic effects. There has been inadvertent administration of 80 mg/kg body weight doses of aciclovir intravenously without ill effect. It is considered oral doses of up to 5 g would not have adverse effects. Ingestion of an entire tube of cream would not be anticipated to cause severe effects.

Management

Overdose greater than 5g should require close observation of the patient. Treatment should be symptomatic and supportive. Aciclovir is dialyzable by hemodialysis.

5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1. Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Antivirals, Chemotherapeutics For Topical Use, ATC code: D06BB03.
Aciclovir is a synthetic purine nucleoside analogue with in vitro and in vivo activity against human herpes viruses including herpes simplex (types I and II) and Varicella zoster.

The inhibitory activity of aciclovir is highly selective. Thymidine kinase enzyme in human cells does not use aciclovir as a substrate effectively, thus toxicity for mammalian cells is low. Virally produced thymidine kinase does use aciclovir, converting it to aciclovir monophosphate, which is further converted to diphosphate and then triphosphate by cellular enzymes. Aciclovir triphosphate interferes with viral DNA polymerase and following incorporation in viral DNA inhibits DNA replication and causes chain termination.

5.2. Pharmacokinetic properties

There is only minimal systemic absorption of aciclovir following repeated topical administration.

6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1. List of excipients

MEDOVIR cream also contains: Cetostearyl alcohol, white petrolatum, mineral oil, simethicone, triethanolamine, glycerol, propylene glycol, poloxamer 407, carbomer 934 (carboxypolymethylene) and purified water.

6.2. Incompatibilities

None known.

6.3. Shelf life

36 months

6.4. Special precautions for storage

Store below 30°C, in the original package, in order to protect from light and moisture. Do not refrigerate.

6.5. Nature and contents of container

Aluminium flexible tubes with a plastic screw cap in a carton with the patient information leaflet. Tubes of 5g and 10g are available. Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

6.6. Special precautions for disposal

Wash hands before and after administration. Always replace the cap on the tube securely. The cream should not be diluted or admixtured with other preparations.

Any unused product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

7. PRODUCT LICENSE HOLDER

KOMEDIC SDN BHD., No. 4 Jalan PJS 11/14, Bandar Sunway, 46150 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, MALAYSIA

8. MANUFACTURER

MEDOCHEMIE LTD (Cogols Facility), 1-10 Konstantinoupoleos Street, 3011 Limassol, Cyprus

9. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER

MAL19973628AZ

10. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

30/12/2002

11. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

01/2025