

**VIREST 5% CREAM**

VIVIR02-2

**DESCRIPTION**

White opaque cream.

**COMPOSITION**

Aciclovir 5% w/w

**ACTIONS AND PHARMACOLOGY**

Aciclovir is converted to aciclovir monophosphate, a nucleotide, by the viral thymidine kinases of herpes simplex virus (HSV). Aciclovir monophosphate is converted to the diphosphate by cellular guanylate kinase and to the triphosphate by a number of cellular enzymes. Aciclovir triphosphate interferes with HSV DNA polymerase and inhibits viral DNA replication. The triphosphate can be incorporated into growing chains of DNA by viral DNA polymerase, resulting in termination of the DNA chain. Aciclovir is therefore selectively converted to the active triphosphate form by HSV-infected cells and it is much less toxic to normal uninfected cells.

**PHARMACOKINETICS****Absorption**

Intact skin: Minimal; acyclovir not detected in blood or urine.

Diseased skin (herpes zoster): Moderate; serum concentrations up to 0.28 mcg per mL have not been reported in patients with normal renal function and up to 0.78 mcg per mL in patients with impaired renal function.

**Elimination**

Renal: Up to 9.4% of the total daily dose may be excreted in the urine.

**INDICATIONS**

It is used for the treatment of herpes simplex viral infections of the skin including initial and recurrent genital herpes and herpes labialis.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

Hypersensitivity to aciclovir or ganciclovir

**PRECAUTIONS**

- Women with herpes genitalis may have an increased risk of developing cervical cancer; annual Pap tests may be required.
- Checking with physician if no improvement within a few days.
- Use of aciclovir has not been shown to prevent the transmission of herpes simplex virus to sexual partners.
- Avoiding contact with eyes.
- Do not apply to mucous membranes eg. in the mouth, eyes or vagina, as it may be irritant.

**PREGNANCY AND LACTATION**

Adequate and well-controlled studies in human pregnancy have not been done. It is not whether topical acyclovir is distributed into breast milk.

**SIDE EFFECTS/ADVERSE REACTIONS**

Mild pain, burning, stinging, pruritus (itching), skin rash. Erythema or mild drying and flaking of the skin have been reported in a small proportion of patients.

**DRUG INTERACTIONS**

Probenecid is reported to block the renal clearance of aciclovir.

**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION****Usual adult, adolescent, paediatric and geriatric dose:**

Topical, apply to the skin, every three hours, six times a day, for seven days. Apply a sufficient quantity to cover all lesions adequately.

Therapy should begin as early as possible after the start of an infection, and for recurrent episodes, this should preferably be during the prodromal period or when the lesions first appear.

To help clear up the herpes infection, continue using the medicine for the full time of treatment, even if the symptoms begin to clear up after a few days. However, patients should not use this medicine more often or for a longer time than the physician ordered.

Note: The information given here is limited. For further information consult your doctor or pharmacist.

Storage : Store below 30°C. Protect from freezing.

Presentation/Packing : Aluminium tube of 15 g, 10 g, 5 g.

Manufactured by : HOVID Bhd.  
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