

VIREST CREAM 5%

Aciclovir

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What Virest Cream 5% is used for

Virest Cream 5% contains a medicine called aciclovir. This belongs to a group of medicine called antivirals. It works by killing or stopping the growth of viruses. Virest Cream 5% is used for the treatment of herpes simplex viral infections of the skin including initial and recurrent genital herpes and herpes labialis.

How Virest Cream 5% works

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.

Before you use Virest Cream 5%

- When you must not use it

Do not take this medicine if you are hypersensitive to aciclovir or ganciclovir.

Do not take this medicine after the expiry date printed on the pack or if the packaging is damaged.

Pregnancy and lactation

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before using any medicine.

- Before you start use it

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if:

- if you are a woman with herpes genitalis

- 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.

Before you take this product, make sure that you tell your doctor or pharmacist about any other medicines you might be using at the same time, particularly probenecid (used to treat gout) which is reported to block the renal clearance of aciclovir.

How to use Virest Cream 5%

- How much to use

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.

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor and pharmacist carefully. They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet. If you do not understand the instructions on the label, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

- When to use it

Use as directed by your doctor or pharmacist.

- How long to use it

Continue taking Virest Cream 5% for as long as your doctor recommends.

- If you forget to use it

Consult your doctor or pharmacist on what you should do if you forget to use it.

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to take the medicine and skip the missed dose. Do not take 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 think you or anyone else may have taken too much of this medicine. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.

While you are using it

- Things you must do

Take your medicine exactly as your doctor has told you.

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Aciclovir

Avoid contact with eyes.

Do not apply to mucous membranes eg. in the mouth, eyes or vagina, as it may be irritant.

Tell all the doctors, dentists and pharmacists treating you that you are taking Virest Cream 5%.

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

- Things you must not do

Do not stop taking the medicine unless advised by your doctor.

Do not take any new medicines without consulting your doctor.

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

**- Things to be careful of
Driving and using machines**

Usually your medicine will have very little effect on your ability to drive or use machines. Check with your doctor if you feel any side effect that may stop you from driving or using machines.

Side effects

Like all medicines, Virest Cream 5% can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

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

Side effects reported:

- 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.

Other unwanted side effects not listed may occur. Tell your doctor immediately.

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

Storage and Disposal of Virest Cream 5%

- Storage

Keep out of reach and sight of children.

Store below 30°C. Protect from freezing.

- 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?

White opaque cream.

- Ingredients

- Active ingredient
Aciclovir 5% w/w

- Inactive ingredients

Cetyl Alcohol
Sorbitan
Monooleate
Propylene Glycol
Stery Alcohol.
Propyl Hydroxybenzoate
(PropylParaben)
Methyl Hydroxybenzoate
(Methylparaben)
Sodium Lauryl
SulphateLiquid
Paraffin Deionised
Water

- MAL Number:

MAL19984392AZ

Manufacturer

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Product Registration Holder

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Serial number

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