

PATIENT PRODUCT INFORMATION

Bepanthen® First Aid Cream



What is Bepanthen® First Aid ?

Bepanthen® First Aid is an off-white homogenous, opaque cream.

Bepanthen® First Aid is a non-stinging off-white colour anti-septic cooling cream. Applied to superficial wounds, it prevents or combats infection and promotes natural healing.

Bepanthen® First Aid contains chlorhexidine, a non-stinging antiseptic which is active against bacteria present on the skin or in contaminated wounds and which is therefore capable of preventing or controlling wound infection. Bepanthen® First Aid also contains the active ingredient dex-panthenol, which is converted in the skin to pantothenic acid, a vitamin that accelerates the formation of new tissue and enhances scar solidity. Bepanthen® First Aid is easy to apply and wash off. It is non-greasy and does not stick to the skin.

What is Bepanthen® First Aid used for ?

Bepanthen® First Aid is used for the treatment of:

- superficial/minor wounds of any kind when there is a risk of infection: e.g. abrasions, small cuts, scratches, fissures, rhagades, mild burns, sores and ulcers.
- infected skin irritations.
- skin damage & external surgical wounds, in minor surgery Bepanthen® First Aid disinfects without stinging and gently heals wound from the injured skin. Bepanthen® First Aid works in a combination of 2 ways to counter the effects of minor wounds i.e.:
 - **Disinfection** – When applied on minor wounds, chlorhexidine in Bepanthen® First Aid helps to disinfect the wound by destroying the bacteria membrane and hence, killing the bacteria.
 - **Gentle healing** – Dexpanthenol penetrates deeply into the skin, accelerates the natural healing process from within.

How should Bepanthen® First Aid be used ?

Clean the wound as thoroughly as possible and apply a thin layer of Bepanthen® First Aid on inflamed skin areas. Apply Bepanthen® First Aid several times a day until the wound

has healed. Application over extensive skin areas should be avoided. Dressings may, but need not, be used.

It is important that you follow the dosage instructions contained in this leaflet. Should you feel that this product is too weak or too strong, consult your physician or pharmacists.

When should Bepanthen® First Aid not be used or used with particular care ?

You must not use Bepanthen® First Aid any longer if an allergic reaction occurs. Bepanthen® First Aid should not be used on serious, deep or highly contaminated wounds. Such wounds require medical attention.

Do not allow Bepanthen® First Aid to come into contact with the eyes, ears or mucous membranes. Consult your physician or pharmacist if you

- are suffering from any other illness.
- have any allergies.
- are taking or applying any other medication (including nonprescription products).

If symptoms persist or the condition worsens, consult your doctor.

Bepanthen First Aid contains chlorhexidine. Chlorhexidine is known to induce hypersensitivity, including generalised allergic reactions and anaphylactic shock. The prevalence of chlorhexidine hypersensitivity is unknown, but available literature suggests this is likely to be very rare. Bepanthen First Aid should not be administered to anyone with a possible history of an allergic reaction to chlorhexidine.

If any signs or symptoms of a suspected hypersensitivity reaction such as itching, skin rash, redness, swelling, breathing difficulties, light headedness, and rapid heart rate develop, immediately stop using the product. Appropriate therapeutic countermeasures must be instituted as clinically indicated.

May Bepanthen® First Aid be used during pregnancy or breastfeeding ?

Although Bepanthen® First Aid may be used during pregnancy or whilst breastfeeding, you should not apply it over a large surface area.

What are the signs and symptoms of overdose ?

Pantothenic acid is, even in high dosage, well tolerated and is therefore considered non-toxic in the literature.

Hypervitaminosis is not known.

Aminotransferase rise after chlorhexidine self-poisoning has been described.

Frequent repeated topical application on the same site can lead to skin irritation. The product is intended for minor skin trauma, extensive exposure must be avoided.

What should be kept in mind when using Bepanthen® First Aid ?

Bepanthen® First Aid should not be used to treat skin irritations that are unlikely to become infected. If you need to treat diaper rash or a sore cracked nipple, you should use Bepanthen Ointment, which is fat containing and protects against moisture.

Chlorhexidine is incompatible with soaps and others anionic compounds. As a precaution against the possibility of interference (antagonism or inactivation), Bepanthen® First Aid should not be used concurrently with other antiseptics.

What side effects can Bepanthen® First Aid have ?

In rare cases, allergic skin reactions and burning have been observed after topical administrations of this products. Should you notice any unusual skin reactions, inform your physician.

Adverse Effects/ Undesirable Effects:

Immune system disorders

Frequency not known: Hypersensitivity including anaphylactic shock

Other things you need to know

Close tube tightly after use and store where it will be protected from heat and out of reach of children. This medicine should not be used after the expiry date (EXP) shown on the pack. You can obtain further information from your physician or pharmacist, both of whom have full prescribing information.

What does Bepanthen® First Aid contain ?

Each gram contains 50mg dexpanthenol and 5mg chlorhexidine hydrochloride.

Pack size available: 30g

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