

Use of steroid preparations

- (A) Clean the affected area(s) before application. Apply the product thinly but liberally to the affected area(s), then gently massage to facilitate absorption. Applying too much may increase absorption and result in side effects.
- (B) Only use occlusion (e.g. glad wrap, dressing) if instructed by your doctor to avoid over absorption.
- (C) Avoid long-term use of steroid preparations especially in infants and children.
- (D) Do not self use any steroid preparation unless otherwise instructed by your doctor. Do not share any steroid preparations with other people.
- (E) Wash your hands thoroughly after application to avoid transferring the medicine to other locations.



Storage

Store your medicines in a cool, dry place away from light. Refrigeration is not required unless otherwise specified by your doctor or on the drug label. Keep the medicines out of reach of children.



This guideline is for reference only .

You should always follow your doctor's instructions.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions.

Do not share your medications with other people.

如有任何查詢，歡迎聯絡我們
For enquiry, please feel free to contact us

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Steroid preparations for external use

藥劑部
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Steroid preparations for external use

Topical steroids are used to control inflammatory skin conditions such as eczema (ectopic dermatitis), contact dermatitis, psoriasis and etc. Steroid preparations are safe and effective if used properly. These products, however, have no effects against and may even worsen bacterial infections. Steroid preparations can cause side effects when used inappropriately. Therefore, most of them are only available with prescriptions.



Side effects of steroid preparations

Large amount or long-term use of steroid preparations can result in increased absorption of steroid and cause side effects like:

- (1) Thinning of skin which may be irreversible;
- (2) Irreversible white stripes on skin;
- (3) Excess growth of small blood vessels on skin, flushing, rosacea;
- (4) Skin may become more sensitive to allergens;
- (5) Contact dermatitis, acne, inflammation of skin around the mouth;
- (6) Loss of pigment on skin.



Classification of steroid preparations

External steroids preparations can be classified according to their potency. For Example:

Mild	Hydrocortisone 0.5-1%
Moderate	Clobetasone butyrate 0.05% Fluocinolone acetonide 0.005%
Strong	Betamethasone valerate 0.1% Fluocinolone acetonide 0.025% Mometasone furoate 0.1%
Very strong	Clobetasol propionate 0.05%

They may also be classified according to the type of preparation:

Lotion - feel light on skin, absorbed quickly, ideal for hairy areas, skins that rub together, or weeping surfaces.

Cream - non-greasy, moisturizing for sweating area, moist or dry skin type.

Ointment – greasy, best moisturizing effect, ideal for dry, scaly skin.