



## Clobetasol Shampoo

*This medicine can be prepared by a compounding pharmacist.*

### Mode of action\*

- Anti-inflammatory, immunosuppressive and antimitotic activity against cutaneous fibroblasts and epidermal cells. They are also vasoconstrictive.

### Indications\*

- Moderate to severe psoriasis – relief of inflammation and itch in conditions such as eczema and psoriasis

### Precautions\*

- *Diabetes* - avoid extensive use as systemic absorption can increase blood glucose concentration.
- *Immunocompromised patients* - avoid extensive use as systemic absorption can result in further immunosuppression.

### Skin\*

- Contraindicated for application to ulcerative skin conditions, untreated skin infections, rosacea, acne vulgaris or areas with impaired circulation.
- Skin atrophy (eg in the elderly) can be potentiated by topical corticosteroids and can increase their systemic absorption.

### Children\*

- Increased systemic absorption due to higher surface area – weight ratio. Skin permeability is increased in preterm neonates.
- Hydrocortisone is adequate initial treatment for most children; use more potent products for the shortest time necessary to control skin disease and monitor closely.

### Pregnancy\*

- Use the lowest appropriate potency of topical corticosteroid for the shortest time necessary where moisturisers and other simple measures are inadequate; clobetasol Australian category B3 (safety data are lacking, use others in preference).

### Breastfeeding\*

- Safe to use; ensure breast area is free of corticosteroid before breastfeeding.

### Adverse effects\*

- *Relative potency, patient age, site and extent of disease, product type, method of application and length of treatment determine the incidence and severity of adverse effects.*
- Folliculitis, steroid rosacea, perioral dermatitis, skin atrophy, delayed wound healing, striae, purpura, depigmentation, telangiectasia, acneiform eruptions; rare (<0.1%) systemic effects (growth retardation, hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis suppression, Cushing's syndrome, cataract, glaucoma); others, see full PI

### Dosage- Shampoo 0.05%(w/v)\*\*

- *Adult*, apply enough to cover affected areas (maximum 7.5 mL using the measure provided) once a day for up to 4 weeks.

### Practice points\*

- Practice points from Corticosteroids
- Potential for systemic absorption increases with extent and activity of disease; monitor amount being used, see also Suggested weekly quantities of topical preparations table on Australian Medicines Handbook 2014

\*Source: Australian Medicines Handbook Pty Ltd 2014 \*\*eMIMS 2014 Clobex<sup>®</sup> shampoo Product Information

