AstroCort™
Hydrocortisone Cream

AstroCort cream is an oil in water cream containing hydrocortisone 1% and 0.5% base.

Indications
Topical hydrocortisone has anti-inflammatory, anti-pruritic and vaso-constrictive action in the treatment of a wide variety of dermatological conditions, such as - atopic, infantile, discoid and stasis eczemas; prurigo nodularis, neurodermatoses, seborrhoeic dermatitis, inter-trigo, napkin rash, contact sensitivity reactions.

Hydrocortisone preparations can be used in the management of insect bites and otitis externa,

Hydrocortisone may be used as continuation therapy in mild cases of seborrhoeic or atopic eczema once the acute inflammatory phase has passed.

Dosage and Administration
A small quantity should be applied to the affected area two or three times daily.

Contra-indications
Hypersensitivity to the any of the constituents.
Other contra-indications include skin lesions caused by infection with viruses (e.g. herpes simplex, chickenpox), fungi (e.g. candidiasis, tinea) or bacteria (e.g. impetigo), and Rosacea.

Precautions
In infants and children, long-term topical therapy should be avoided where possible, as adrenal suppression may rarely occur, even without occlusion therapy. In infants, the napkin may act as an occlusive dressing, and increase absorption. Treatment should therefore be limited, if possible, to a maximum of 7 days.

Appropriate antimicrobial therapy should be used whenever treating inflammatory lesions which have become infected. Any spread of infection requires withdrawal of topical corticosteroid therapy, and systemic administration of antimicrobial agents. As with all corticosteroids, prolonged application to the face is undesirable.

Pregnancy
There is inadequate evidence of safety in human pregnancy and it is therefore contraindicated.

Side-effects
Hydrocortisone preparations are usually well tolerated, but if signs of hypersensitivity appear, application should stop.

Local atrophic changes may occur where skinfolds are involved, or in areas such as the napkin area in small children, where constant moist conditions favour the absorption of hydrocortisone. Sufficient systemic absorption may also occur at such sites to produce the features of hypercorticism and suppression of the hypothalamic pituitary adrenal axis, after prolonged treatment. Glucosuria, hyperglycaemia, Gushing Syndrome may rarely occur. This effect is more likely to occur in infants and children, and if occlusive dressings are used.
Pharmaceutical Information
Stroe below 30° C in a dry place away from direct sun light. Availability
In packs of 15gm tubes containing 1% hydrocortisone base and in packs of 10gm tubes containing 0.5% hydrocortisone base.

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