TETRA-CORT
TOPICAL OINTMENT
Oxytetracycline Hydrochloride
Hydrocortisone

Description
Tetra-cort topical ointment contains 30mg Oxytetracycline per gram of ointment. And 1.0% (10mg/g) hydrocortisone in a petrolatum base. Oxytetracycline is a product of the metabolism of Streptomyces rimosus and is one of the family of tetracycline antibiotics.

Actions:
Tetra-cort topical ointment contains both the anti-infective activity of Oxytetracycline and the anti-inflammatory activity of hydrocortisone.

Oxytetracycline is a potent broad-spectrum antibiotic which is useful topically for prevention or treatment of superficial cutaneous infections due to a variety of pyogenic bacteria, both gram-positive and gram-negative.

Hydrocortisone is primarily effective because of its anti-inflammatory, anti-pruritic and vasoconstrictive actions.

In the treatment of superficial infections of the skin amenable to Oxytetracycline therapy the anti-inflammatory action of the Hydrocortisone in this ointment will afford prompt symptomatic relief while the Oxytetracycline is acting against the causative organisms.

Where topical therapy with Hydrocortisone is of value, the added presence of Oxytetracycline will serve to prevent or eradicate secondary bacterial infection frequently complications. Since varying degrees of bacterial infection frequently complicate those skin conditions for which Hydrocortisone topical therapy is indicated, this combined preparation may offer therapeutic advantages over the use of Hydrocortisone alone.

If extensive areas are treated if the occlusive technique is used there will be increased systemic absorption of the corticosteroid and suitable precautions should be taken. Particularly in children and infants.

Although topical steroids have not been reported to have an adverse effect on human pregnancy, the safety of their use in pregnant women has not absolutely been established. In laboratory animals, increases in incidence of foetal abnormalities have been associated with exposure of gestating females to topical corticosteroids, in some cases at rather low dosage levels. Therefore, drugs if this class should not be used extensively on pregnant patients, in large amounts, or for prolonged periods of time.

The product is not for ophthalmic use.
Adverse Reactions:
Hydrocortisone and Oxytetracycline are well tolerated by the epithelial tissues and may be used topically with minimal untoward effects. Allergic reactions may occur occasionally, but are rare.

The following local adverse reactions have been reported with topical corticosteroids, especially under occlusive dressings.

Burning, itching, irritation, dryness folliculitis, hyperrichosis, acneform, eruptions, hypopigmentation, perioral dermatitis, allergic contact dermatitis, maceration of the skin, secondary infection, skin atrophy, striae, milia.
The use of Tetra-cort Topical ointment should be discontinued if such reactions occur.

Dosage and administration
After thorough cleansing of the affected skin areas a small amount of the ointment should be applied gently.
Applications should be made two to four times daily. When actual infection is present, the ointment may be applied on sterile gauze and by this means, kept in contiguous contact with the affected area. Care should be taken not to discontinue therapy too soon after the initial response has been obtained.
Tetra-cort Topical Ointment is thus useful in the treatment of skin conditions in which antibacterial and anti-inflammatory effects are desired.

In the allergic dramatoses, the inciting allergens in the food or environment should be determined and eliminated. Patch tests, intradermal tests or other suitable procedures should be employed to determine the allergens. In patients with widespread dermatitis, oral therapy with Hydrocortisone may be advisable.

Supplemental therapy with oral Oxytetracycline is advisable in the treatment of severe infections or those which may become systemic.

Indications:
Cutaneous Infections:
Including superficial pyogenic infections. Pyoderma, pustular dermatitis, and infections associated with minor burns or wounds (under close supervision)

Atopic Dermatitis:
Including allergic eczema, both disseminated and circumscribed neuroder, matitis, priritus with lichenification, eczematoid dermatitis, food eczema and infantile eczema.

Contact Dermatitis:
Due to plants, drugs, cosmetics, clothing material, and miscellaneous substances.

Nonspecific pruritus of the anus, vulva, and scrotum.
**Contraindications:**

1. Acute herps simplex, vaccinia and varicella
2. Tuberculosis of the skin.
3. Fungal disease of the skin.
4. Hypersensitivity to any of the components of the drug.

**Precautions:**

If irritation develops, the product should be discontinued and appropriate therapy instituted.

The use of OXYTETRACYCLINE and other antibiotics may result in an overgrowth of resistant organisms-particularly Candida and Staphylococci. Constant observation of the patient for this possibility is essential. If new infections due to nonsusceptible bacteria of fungi appear during therapy, appropriate measures should be taken.

If a favourable response does not occur promptly, the corticosteroids should be discontinued until the infection has been adequately controlled.