

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects talk to your doctor or pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet:

1. What **Avocom cream** is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you use **Avocom cream**
3. How to use **Avocom cream**
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store **Avocom cream**
6. Further information

1. What Avocom cream is and what it is used for

Avocom cream is one of a group of medicines called topical corticosteroids. It is classified as a "potent corticosteroid". These medicines are put on the surface of the skin to reduce the redness and itchiness caused by certain skin problems.

In adults and children, **Avocom cream** is used to reduce redness and itchiness caused by certain skin problems called psoriasis or dermatitis.

Psoriasis is a skin disease in which itchy, scaly, pink patches develop on the elbows, knees, scalp and other parts of the body. Dermatitis is a condition brought on by the skin reacting to outside agents e.g. detergents, causing the skin to become red and itchy.

2. What you need to know before you use Avocom cream

Do not use Avocom cream if you have any of the following:

- an allergy (hypersensitivity) to mometasone furoate, any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6) or to other similar medicines.
- any other skin problems as it could make them worse especially:
 - rosacea (a skin condition affecting the face)
 - acne
 - skin atrophy (thinning of the skin)
 - dermatitis around the mouth
 - genital itching
 - nappy rash
 - cold sores
 - chickenpox
 - shingles
 - warts
 - ulcerated skin
 - wounds
 - other skin infections

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Warnings and precautions

Contact your doctor if your psoriasis gets worse or you get raised bumps filled with pus under your skin.

Contact your doctor immediately if you experience blurred vision or other visual disturbances. If your skin becomes irritated or sensitive after using **Avocom cream**, you should stop using it and tell your doctor.

If you think that you have developed an infection on your skin while using **Avocom cream**, you should tell your doctor.

Side effects that may happen with inhaled or oral corticosteroids may also occur with corticosteroids used on the skin, especially in infants and children.

If you use more than the correct amount of cream and/or use it for longer than is recommended, it can affect the levels of certain hormones in the body, particularly in infants and children.

In adults the changes in hormone levels may lead rarely to puffiness or rounding of the face, weakness, tiredness, and dizziness when standing or sitting down.

Do not smoke or go near naked flames – risk of severe burns. Fabric (clothing, bedding, dressings etc) that has been in contact with this product burns more easily and is a serious fire hazard. Removing clothing and bedding may reduce product build-up but not totally remove it.

Children

If more than the correct amount of cream is used and/or it is used for longer than is recommended, it can affect the child's hormones. This may lead to:

- Delayed growth and development
- A moon face or rounding of the face

Other medicines and Avocom cream

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are using, have recently used or might use any other medicines.

Pregnancy and breastfeeding

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

3. How to use Avocom cream

Always use **Avocom cream** exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Use in children

Avocom cream is not recommended for children under the age of 2.

How much to use

Usually for adults and children aged 2 and above, a thin layer of **Avocom cream** should be gently rubbed into the affected area of skin once a day.

Before using Avocom cream

You should always follow these instructions when using **Avocom cream**:

- Do not use the cream on your face for more than 5 days.
- Do not apply the cream to children, on any part of their body, for more than 5 days.
- Do not put the cream under your child's nappy, as this makes it easier for the active drug to pass through the skin and possibly cause some unwanted effects.
- You should check with your doctor before covering the treated areas with a bandage or plaster.

Treated areas on the face or in children should not be covered with a bandage or plaster.

- You should not use a large amount of cream on large areas of the body for a long time (for example every day for many weeks or months).
- Do not use in or around your eyes, including eyelids.

If you use more Avocom cream than you should

If you (or somebody else) accidentally swallow the cream, it should not produce any problems. However, if you are worried, you should see your doctor.

If you use the cream more often than you should, or on large areas of the body, it can affect some of your hormones. In children, this may affect their growth and development.

If you have not used the cream as you were told to do and have used it too often and/or for a long time, you should tell your doctor.

If you forget to use Avocom cream

If you forget to use your cream at the right time, use it as soon as you remember, then carry on as before.

If you stop using Avocom cream

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor, pharmacist.

If you have been using **Avocom cream** for a long time and your skin problem seems to have got better, you should not suddenly stop using the cream. If you do, you may find that your skin becomes red and you may notice stinging or burning. To avoid this, you should speak to your doctor who will gradually reduce how often you need to use the cream until you stop treatment altogether.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

A few people may find that they suffer from some of the following side effects after using **Avocom cream**:

- allergic skin reactions
- bacterial and secondary skin infections
- acne
- inflammation and/or infection of the hair follicles
- thinning of the skin
- red marks with associated prickly heat
- loss of skin colour
- burning
- stinging
- itching
- tingling
- excessive hair growth
- softening of the skin and stretch marks
- blurred vision.

Other side effects that may occur with topical corticosteroids are dry skin, skin irritation, dermatitis, dermatitis around the mouth, and small dilated blood vessels.

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

5. How to store Avocom cream

- Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
- Store below 30°C.
- Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the label and carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines if you no longer use. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Further information

What Avocom cream contains

- The active substance is mometasone furoate, each gram contains 1 mg of mometasone furoate.
- The other ingredients are: Paraffin Oil, Emulgin B2, Cetostearyl Alcohol, Vaseline, Dexpanthenol, Propylene Glycol, Methyl Paraben, Propyl Paraben and Purified Water.

What Avocom cream looks like and contents of the pack

The cream is available in a tube containing 30g.

Manufacturer & Marketing Authorisation Holder:

Middle East Pharmaceutical Industries Co Ltd (Avalon Pharma)

P.O.Box 4180 Riyadh 11491

2nd Industrial City, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Tel: +966 (11) 2653946-2653427

Fax: +966 (11) 2654723

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To report any side effect(s):

- **Saudi Arabia:**

The National Pharmacovigilance and Drug Safety Centre (NPC)

- SFDa call center: 19999
- E-mail: npc.drug@sfd.gov.sa
- Website: <https://ade.sfd.gov.sa>

- Other GCC States:

Please contact the relevant competent authority.

THIS IS A MEDICATION

- Medicament is a product which affects your health and its consumption contrary to instructions is dangerous for you.
- Follow strictly the doctor's prescription, the method of use and the instructions of the pharmacist who sold the medicament.
- The doctor and the pharmacist are the experts in medicines, their benefits and risks.
- Do not by yourself interrupt the period of treatment prescribed for you.
- Do not repeat the same prescription without consulting your doctor.
- Keep all medicaments out of reach of children.

Council of Arab Health Ministers, Union of Arab Pharmacists