MSK Kids

PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Pyrethrins and Piperonyl Butoxide

This information from Lexicomp® explains what you need to know about this medication, including what it's used for, how to take it, its side effects, and when to call your healthcare provider.

Brand Names: US

A-200 Lice Treatment Kit [OTC]; A-200 Maximum Strength [OTC]; FT Lice Killing Max Strength [OTC]; LiceMD Complete [OTC] [DSC]; LiceMD Treatment [OTC]; Licide [OTC] [DSC]; Pronto Plus Complete Lice Removal System [OTC]; RID Lice Killing [OTC]; RID Lice Treatment Complete [OTC]; VanaLice [OTC]

Brand Names: Canada

Pronto Lice Control; R & C II; R & C Shampoo/Conditioner; RID Mousse

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat lice.

What do I need to tell the doctor BEFORE my child takes this drug?

- If your child is allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell the doctor about the allergy and what signs your child had.
- If your child is allergic to ragweed. This drug may cause trouble breathing or an asthma attack.

This drug may interact with other drugs or health problems.

Tell the doctor and pharmacist about all of your child's drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, vitamins) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe to give this drug with all of your child's other drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug your child takes without checking with the doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while my child takes this drug?

- Tell all of your child's health care providers that your child is taking this drug. This includes your child's doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- A second treatment will be needed after 7 to 10 days.

This is to kill any newly-hatched lice.

- This drug may cause harm if swallowed. If this drug is swallowed, call a doctor or poison control center right away.

If your child is pregnant or breast-feeding a baby:

- Talk with the doctor if your child is pregnant, becomes pregnant, or is breast-feeding a baby. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to your child and the baby.

What are some side effects that I need to call my child's doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your child's doctor or get medical help right away if your child has any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Eye irritation.

What are some other side effects of this drug?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your child’s doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother your child or do not go away:

- Irritation where this drug was used.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your child’s doctor. Call your child’s doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

How is this drug best given?

Give this drug as ordered by your child’s doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

All products:

- Do not give by mouth. Use on your child’s skin only. Keep out of your child’s mouth, nose, and eyes (may burn).
- Do not put in the vagina.

- If this drug gets in any of these areas, have your child rinse well with water.
- If your child has lice in the eyebrows or eyelashes, talk with the doctor. Do not use this drug on lice in these areas.
- Wash your hands before and after use.
- Do not wet hair or affected part with water before putting on.
- Cover eyes and face with a towel. Keep eyes closed tightly.
- Lightly coat hair or affected part.
- Work into hair and scalp or affected skin gently.
- Leave on for 10 minutes.
- Do not cover while this drug is on.
- After 10 minutes, use a little warm water and soap or shampoo on hair and lather.
- Rinse fully.
- Dry with a towel.
- Comb out the tangles with a regular comb.
- Use special nit comb or tweezers to get rid of dead nits (lice eggs) from hair.
- If hair dries during combing, make slightly damp

again with water.

- Wash all bedding, towels, and recently worn clothes in hot water or have them dry cleaned.

Shampoo:

- Shake well before use.

Shampoo with gel kit:

- If you have a kit that includes shampoo with gel, use the shampoo first. The gel in the kit does not kill lice or their eggs.
- Put the gel onto each section of hair before using the special nit comb or tweezers.
- Rinse the gel out of the hair with warm water after you are done.
- If the kit comes with a lice control spray for mattresses and furniture, do not spray it on a person. Be sure you know how to use the spray.

What do I do if my child misses a dose?

- Put on a missed dose as soon as you think about it.

How do I store and/or throw out this drug?

- Store at room temperature in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.

- Protect from heat.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.

General drug facts

- If your child’s symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your child’s doctor.
- Do not share your child’s drug with others and do not give anyone else’s drug to your child.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your child’s doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

Consumer Information Use and Disclaimer

This generalized information is a limited summary of diagnosis, treatment, and/or medication information. It is not meant to be comprehensive and should be used as a tool to help the user understand and/or assess potential diagnostic and treatment options. It does NOT include all information about conditions, treatments, medications, side effects, or risks that may apply to a specific patient. It is not intended to be medical advice or a substitute for the medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment of a health care provider based on the health care provider's examination and assessment of a patient's specific and unique circumstances. Patients must speak with a health care provider for complete information about their health, medical questions, and treatment options, including any risks or benefits regarding use of medications. This information does not endorse any treatments or medications as safe, effective, or approved for treating a specific patient. UpToDate, Inc. and its affiliates disclaim any warranty or liability relating to this information or the use thereof. The use of this information is governed by the Terms of Use, available at https://www.wolterskluwer.com/en/know/clinical-effectiveness-terms.

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If you have any questions, contact a member of your care team directly. If you're a patient at MSK and you need to reach a provider after 5 p.m., during the weekend, or on a holiday, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

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