Fluticasone (Nasal)

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**

- Flonase Allergy Relief [OTC]; Flonase Sensimist [OTC];
- GoodSense Nasoflow [OTC] [DSC]; Ticaspray [DSC]; Veramyst [DSC]; Xhance

**Brand Names: Canada**

- APO-Fluticasone; Avamys; Flonase [DSC]; RATIO-Fluticasone;
- TEVA-Fluticasone

**What is this drug used for?**

- It is used to ease allergy signs.

**Nasal spray (Xhance):**

- If your child has been given this form of this drug, talk with the doctor for information about the benefits and risks. Talk with the doctor if you have questions or concerns about giving this drug to your child.
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 taking any of these drugs: Atazanavir, clarithromycin, conivaptan, indinavir, itraconazole, ketoconazole, lopinavir, nefazodone, nelfinavir, ritonavir, saquinavir, telithromycin, or voriconazole.

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with this drug.

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 for your child to take this drug with all of his/her 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.

- Do not use this drug to treat asthma. Talk with the doctor.
Long-term use may raise the chance of cataracts, glaucoma, or weak bones (osteoporosis). Talk with your child’s doctor.

Get your child an eye exam as you have been told by the doctor.

Have your child get a bone density test as you have been told by your child’s doctor.

Talk with the doctor if your child comes into contact with anyone who has chickenpox or measles and your child has not had chickenpox, measles, or the vaccines for them.

If your child has come into contact with anyone who has tuberculosis (TB), talk with the doctor.

If your child has had any recent nose surgery, injury, ulcers, or sores, talk with the doctor.

If your child is switching to this drug from another form of steroid (like oral), the dose of the other steroid may need to be lowered slowly to avoid side effects. Do not suddenly stop giving the other steroid without talking with your child’s doctor.

This drug may affect growth in children and teens in some cases. They may need regular growth checks. Talk with the doctor.

Different brands of this drug may be for use in different ages of children. Talk with the doctor before giving this drug to a
child.

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.

- Signs of a weak adrenal gland like a very bad upset stomach or throwing up, very bad dizziness or passing out, muscle weakness, feeling very tired, mood changes, not hungry, or weight loss.

- Nose sores.

- Bad nosebleeds.
• Whistling sound when your child breathes.
• Redness or white patches in mouth or throat.
• Change in eyesight.
• Nose discharge that is not normal.
• Very bad face pain.
• Crusting in the nose.
• Runny nose.
• Bone pain.
• Fever or chills.
• Very bad sore throat.

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:

• Headache.
• Nose or throat irritation.
• Nosebleed.
• Cough.
• Upset stomach or throwing up.
• Stinging or sneezing may happen for a few seconds after your
child uses this drug. Talk with the doctor if this bothers your child.

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.

- Do not give this drug by mouth. Use in your child’s nose only. Keep out of your child’s mouth and eyes (may burn).
- Keep giving this drug to your child as you have been told by your child’s doctor or other health care provider, even if your child feels well.
- Some products may have different ways to prime the pump. Some pumps may also need to be primed if not used for different periods of time. Follow how and when to prime as you have been told.
- Spray up your child’s nose only. Do not spray onto the wall joining your child’s nostrils.
- Shake well before use.
- Have your child blow nose before use.
What do I do if my child misses a dose?

- Give a missed dose as soon as you think about it.
- If it is close to the time for your child’s next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your child’s normal time.
- Do not give 2 doses at the same time or extra doses.

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

- Store at room temperature. Throw away any part not used after labeled number of doses are used.
- Protect from heat, cold, and light.
- Store upright with the cap on.
- 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 information should not be used to decide whether or not to take this medicine or any other medicine. Only the healthcare provider has the knowledge and training to decide which medicines are right for a specific patient. This information does not endorse any medicine as safe, effective, or approved for treating any patient or health condition. This is only a brief summary of general information about this medicine. It does NOT include all information about the possible uses, directions, warnings, precautions, interactions, adverse effects, or risks that may apply to this medicine. This information is not specific medical advice and does not replace information you receive from the healthcare provider. You must talk with the healthcare provider for complete information about the risks and benefits of using this medicine.

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If you have any questions, contact a member of your healthcare team directly. If you're a patient at MSK and you need to reach a provider after 5:00 PM, during the weekend, or on a holiday, call 212-639-2000.

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