Hydrocortisone (Topical)

**Brand Names: US**
Advanced Allergy Collection; Ala Scalp; Ala-Cort; Anti-Itch Maximum Strength [OTC]; Anucort-HC; Anusol-HC; Aquanil HC [OTC]; Beta HC [OTC]; Colocort; Cortaid Maximum Strength [OTC]; Cortenema; Corticool [OTC] [DSC]; Cortifoam; Curad Hydrocortisone [OTC]; Dermasorb HC; GRx HiCort 25 [DSC]; Hemmorex-HC; Hydrocortisone in Absorbase; Hydrocortisone Max St [OTC]; Hydrocortisone Max St/12 Moist [OTC]; HydroSKIN [OTC]; Instacort 5 [OTC]; Locoid; Locoid Lipocream; Med-Derm Hydrocortisone [OTC] [DSC]; Medi-First Hydrocortisone [OTC] [DSC]; MiCort-HC; NuCort; Pandel; Pediaderm HC [DSC]; Preparation H Hydrocortisone [OTC]; Procto-Med HC; Procto-Pak; Proctocort; Proctosol HC; Proctozone-HC; Recort Plus [OTC]; Rectacort-HC [DSC]; Rederm [OTC] [DSC]; Sarnol-HC [OTC]; Scalacort DK; Scalacort [DSC]; Scalpicin Maximum Strength [OTC]; Texacort; Westcort [DSC]

**Brand Names: Canada**
Aquacort; Cortamed; Cortenema; Cortifoam; Emo-Cort; Hycort; Hyderm; HydroVal; Locoid; Prevex HC; Sarna HC; Westcort
What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat skin irritation.
- It is used to treat skin rashes.
- It is used to treat signs of hemorrhoids or rectal irritation.
- It is used to treat ulcerative colitis.

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

All products:

- If your child has an allergy to this drug or any part of this drug.
- If your child is allergic to any drugs like this one or any other drugs, foods, or other substances. Tell the doctor about the allergy and what signs your child had, like rash; hives; itching; shortness of breath; wheezing; cough; swelling of face, lips, tongue, or throat; or any other signs.

Rectal enema:

- If your child has any of these health problems: Bowel block; a fungal infection; holes, sores, or wounds on the rectal area; or recent colostomy surgery.

Rectal foam:

- If your child has any of these health problems: Bowel block; fistulas; holes, sores, or wounds on the rectal area; or irritation of the lining of the belly.
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?**

**All products:**

- 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.
- Talk with your child’s doctor before you use other drugs or products on your child’s skin.
- Do not put on cuts, scrapes, or damaged skin.
- Use care when putting on a large part of the skin or where there are open wounds. Talk with the doctor.
- This drug may cause harm if swallowed. If this drug is swallowed, call a doctor or poison control center right away.
- Do not have your child use longer than you have been told by your child’s doctor.
- Use with care in children. Talk with the doctor.
This drug may affect growth in children and teens in some cases. They may need regular growth checks. Talk with the doctor.

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 of using this drug.

All skin products:

- Some products may not be for use in the diaper area. Talk with the doctor.

Suppository:

- This drug may stain clothing or fabric.

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:

All products:

- 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 high blood sugar like confusion, feeling sleepy, more thirst, more hungry, passing urine more often, flushing, fast breathing, or breath that smells like fruit.
- 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.
- Signs of Cushing’s disease like weight gain in the upper back or belly, moon face, very bad headache, or slow healing.
- Change in eyesight.
- Very bad headache.

**All skin products:**

- Signs of skin infection like oozing, heat, swelling, redness, or pain.
- Skin changes (pimples, stretch marks, slow healing, hair growth).
- Skin irritation.
- Thinning of the skin.

**All rectal products:**

- Very bad bleeding from rectum or rectal pain.

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:

**All skin products:**

- Stinging.
- Dry skin.
- Burning.

**All rectal products:**

- Burning.
- Pain.
- Rectal irritation.

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:**

- Keep using this drug as you have been told by your child’s
doctor or other health care provider, even if your child’s signs get better.

**All skin 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).
- Wash your hands before and after use.
- Clean affected part before use. Make sure to dry well.
- Put a thin layer on the affected part and rub in gently.
- Do not use coverings (bandages, dressings, make-up) unless told to do so by the doctor.
- Do not put on your child’s face, underarms, or the groin area unless told to do so by the doctor.
- Do not use tight-fitting diapers or plastic pants if treated part is in the diaper area. This may cause more drug to get into the body.

**Lotion:**

- Shake well before use.

**All rectal products:**

- This drug is for rectal use only. Do not give this drug by mouth.
- Follow how to give this drug as you have been told by your child’s doctor or read the package insert.
• Wash your hands before and after use.

**Rectal enema:**

• Shake well before use.

**Rectal foam:**

• Shake well before use.
• Use an applicator to put in foam. Do not put the foam container right into the rectum.
• This drug may catch on fire. Do not use near an open flame or while smoking.

**Suppository:**

• Take foil off the rectal suppository and put in, pointed end first. Do not handle too much.
• If suppository is soft, chill in a refrigerator or run cold water over it.

**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?**

**All products:**
• Store at room temperature. Do not freeze.
• 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.

Rectal foam:

• Protect from heat or open flame. Do not puncture or burn even if it seems empty.

Suppository:

• Protect from heat.

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.
• Keep a list of all your child’s drugs (prescription, natural products, vitamins, OTC) with you. Give this list to your child’s doctor.
• Talk with your child’s doctor before giving your child any new drug, including prescription or OTC, natural products,
or vitamins.

- 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.

**Last Reviewed Date**

2017-03-08
If you have any questions or concerns, talk with a member of your healthcare team. You can reach them Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at ________________________. After 5:00 PM, during the weekend, and on holidays, please call_______________________. If there’s no number listed, or you’re not sure, call 212-639-2000.

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