PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Ingenol Mebutate

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

Picato [DSC]

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat a precancerous skin problem called actinic keratosis.

What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take this drug?

- If you are allergic to this drug; any part of this drug; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell your doctor about the allergy and what signs you had.
- If your skin has not healed from other care or surgery.
- If you are sunburned.

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

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

What are some things I need to know or do while I take this drug?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take this drug. This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- If you get this drug in your eyes, it may cause eye problems like very bad eye pain, eyelid swelling or droop, or swelling around the eyes. Do not touch your eyes while using this drug. If you get this drug in your eyes, flush with water and call your doctor.
- Do not use more than what your doctor told you to use. Do not use more often or longer than what you were told. Doing any of these things may raise the chance of very bad side effects.
- Make sure sores near the area to be treated are healed before using this drug.
- Talk with your doctor before you use other drugs or products on your skin.
- This drug may cause harm if swallowed. If this drug is swallowed, call a doctor or poison control center right away.
- People using this drug may have skin reactions where this drug is used. These reactions may include change in skin color, crusting, flaking, redness, scaling, scarring, or swelling. If these reactions get very bad, a break from using this drug may be needed as told by the doctor. Talk with the doctor.
- Call your doctor right away if you have a skin reaction that bothers you or if the reaction makes it hard to keep putting this drug on. Call your doctor right away if you have a skin reaction that causes problems with daily living.
- Very bad skin reactions and eye injuries have happened when this drug is not put on as told by the doctor. Talk with the doctor.
- This drug is used to treat actinic keratosis on skin that is more likely to develop skin cancer. After treatment with this drug, certain types of skin cancer have happened in the treated area. Call your doctor right away if

you have any new skin changes after treatment with this drug.

- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan on getting pregnant, or are breast-feeding. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks to you and the baby.
- If you are breast-feeding, be sure your baby does not touch the treated skin.

What are some side effects that I need to call my 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 doctor or get medical help right away if you have 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 severe skin reaction (Stevens-Johnson syndrome) like red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin (with or without fever); red or irritated eyes; or sores in the mouth, throat, nose, or eyes.
- Signs of skin infection like oozing, heat, swelling, redness, or pain.
- Skin ulcers.
- Skin breakdown where this drug is used.
- Dizziness or passing out.
- New scaly red patches on the skin, open sores, or raised or warty growths at the treated area, even if these happen after stopping this drug.

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 doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother you or do not go away:

- Headache.
- Nose or throat irritation.

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

You may report side effects to your national health agency.

You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-332-1088. You may also report side effects at https://www.fda.gov/medwatch.

How is this drug best taken?

Use this drug as ordered by your doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

- Do not take this drug by mouth. Use on your skin only. Keep out of your mouth, nose, and eyes (may burn).
- Do not put in the vagina.
- Do not put this drug on the lips. Do not put near or around the eyes or mouth.
- Wash your hands before and after use. If your hand is the treated area, do not wash your hand after use.
- Use a new tube of gel each time you use this drug.
- Do not put on right after taking a shower or less than 2 hours before bedtime.
- Put a thin layer on the affected skin.
- Put on affected part only.

- Allow gel to dry for 15 minutes after using.
- Do not touch the area where this drug was put on the skin.
- Leave on the skin for 6 hours, then wash off.
- Do not bathe, shower, or swim for 6 hours after putting on.
- Avoid actions that may cause sweating for 6 hours after the gel is put on your skin.
- Do not cover with dressings.
- This drug has gotten in the eyes on accident even after hand washing. This includes when putting on make-up or putting in contact lenses. Do not put on make-up or put in contact lenses right after using this drug. Use care to avoid getting this drug in the eyes.
- If you get this drug in the eyes, flush right away with cool water and get medical help.
- Do not get this drug on other parts of your body or on other people.

What do I do if I miss a dose?

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

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

- Store in a refrigerator. Do not freeze.
- Throw away any part not used after use.
- 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 symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor.
- Do not share your drugs with others and do not take anyone else’s drugs.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. Check with your pharmacist. If you have any questions about this drug, please talk with your 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.

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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

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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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