PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Ketoconazole (Topical

This information from UpToDate® Lexidrug™ 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

Extina [DSC]; Ketodan; Xolegel [DSC]

Brand Names: Canada

Ketoderm

What is this drug used for?

- It is used to treat fungal infections of the skin.
- It is used to control seborrheic dermatitis.
- It is used to treat dandruff.

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.

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?

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.
- If your child is allergic to sulfites, talk with your child's doctor. Some products have sulfites in them.
- Talk with your child's doctor before you use other drugs or products on your child's skin. This includes soaps.
- 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.

Cream, foam, and gel:

- If your child is breast-feeding a baby, be sure she does not put this drug right on the nipple or the area right around it.

Foam and gel:

- This drug may catch on fire. Do not use near an open flame or while smoking.

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.

Foam:

- Rash if the treated area is in the sun.

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 products:

- Burning.
- Irritation where this drug was used.

Shampoo:

- Takes curl out of hair.
- Hair loss.
- Change in color of hair.

- Change in hair texture.
- Itching.
- Dry skin.

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.

Cream, foam, and gel:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- If your child's skin is broken or swollen, talk with your child's doctor before using this drug. Some drugs are not for use on broken or swollen skin.

Foam:

- Hold upright to use. Do not turn upside down.
- Put the foam into the cap of the can or onto another cool surface. Do not place foam right in your hands because it will melt. Pick up a little foam with your fingertips and rub into the affected area until you cannot see the foam. If there is hair on the affected area, part the hair to put the foam on the skin instead of the hair.

Gel:

- Do not let your child bathe, shower, or swim for 3 hours after putting on.

Shampoo:

- Do not give by mouth. Use on your child's scalp and hair only. Keep out of your child's mouth, nose, and eyes

(may burn).

- 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.
- Wet hair and scalp.
- Put on enough shampoo to make a lather.
- Lather well and leave on as you have been told.
- Rinse well.
- If your child's skin is broken or swollen, talk with your child's doctor before using this drug. Some drugs are not for use on broken or swollen skin.

What do I do if my child misses a dose?

- Use 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 use 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 refrigerate or freeze.
- Store in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.
- 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.

Foam and gel:

- Protect from heat or open flame.

Foam:

- Protect from heat and sunlight. Do not puncture or burn even if it seems empty.

Shampoo:

- Protect from light.

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.

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If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

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

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