

HYCOR EYE DROPS

(Hydrocortisone)

Consumer Medicine Information

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about **HYCOR EYE DROPS**.

It does not contain all of the available information.

It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you using **HYCOR EYE DROPS** against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine.

You may need to read it again.

What is HYCOR

The name of your medicine is **HYCOR EYE DROPS**.

The active ingredient is called hydrocortisone (as the free alcohol).

HYCOR is a type of steroid and belongs to the group of medicines called corticosteroids.

HYCOR EYE DROPS are for use in the eyes

only. They should not be taken by mouth.

What HYCOR EYE DROPS used for

HYCOR EYE DROPS are used in inflammatory (red, swollen) conditions of the eye including:

- allergic conjunctivitis
- nonpurulent (non-pus producing) conjunctivitis or swollen eyelids
- *Herpes Zoster ophthalmicus* (herpes eye infections)
- recurrent marginal ulceration (recurring eye ulcers)

Your doctor, however, may have prescribed **HYCOR EYE DROPS** for another purpose.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why **HYCOR EYE DROPS** have been prescribed for you.

If you have any concerns, you should discuss this with your doctor or in his/her absence with your pharmacist.

These drops are available only on a doctor's prescription.

Before you use HYCOR EYE DROPS

When you must not use it

Do not use **HYCOR EYE DROPS** if you are allergic to:

- Hydrocortisone or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet

Do not use **HYCOR EYE DROPS** if you have an acute Herpes infection of the eye, vaccinia (a special form of chicken pox), varicella or other viral infections of the eye, ocular tuberculosis, fungal diseases of the eye, pus-producing infections of the eye.

Do not use HYCOR EYE DROPS after the expiry date printed on the pack.

If you use it after the expiry date has passed, it may have no effect at all, or worse, there may be an entirely unexpected effect.

Do not purchase or use HYCOR EYE DROPS if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

Before you start to use it

You must tell your doctor if you:

- are allergic to any other medicines or any foods, dyes or preservatives.

- have glaucoma or a family history of glaucoma
- wear contact lenses
- have cataracts
- are diabetic
- have a disease where the cornea is thinned. (Perforation may occur).

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor if you are using any other medication, including medicines, creams, ointments or lotions that you buy without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Do not use in children unless specifically directed to by your doctor.

Some medicines may interfere with **HYCOR EYE DROPS**.

These include:

- medicines used to treat glaucoma
- atropine and related compounds, these include medicines used to relieve stomach cramps or spasms, to prevent travel sickness and to treat Parkinson's Disease

Contact lenses should not be worn while using **HYCOR EYE DROPS** as the drops may mask signs of infection.

The above medicines may either reduce the

effectiveness of HYCOR, reduce its own effectiveness and/or react with HYCOR resulting in untoward or sometimes dangerous side effects.

This list is not exhaustive. Your doctor or pharmacist has more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while using **HYCOR EYE DROPS**.

How to use HYCOR EYE DROPS

How to use them

Gently pull out the lower eyelid to form a sac. Allow one drop to fall into the sac without touching the eye with the dropper end of the bottle.

To minimise absorption of the drug other than into the eye, apply gentle pressure to the tear duct for approximately one minute immediately after application.

When to use them

Use only as directed by your Doctor. Do not use more than the number of drops he/she advises or use them more frequently than directed.

How long to use them

HYCOR EYE DROPS should be used as long as your doctor thinks it is necessary.

It is important to use **HYCOR EYE DROPS** exactly as directed.

If you use it less than you should, it may not work as well and your medical condition may not improve.

Using it more frequently than you should may not improve your condition any faster and may cause or increase side effects.

If you forget to use HYCOR EYE DROPS at the required time

Use it as soon as you remember and then return to your normal dosing time. If your next dose is almost due, leave using **HYCOR EYE DROPS** until that time.

Do not try to make up for missed doses by using more than one dose at a time. This may increase the chance of getting an unwanted side effect.

If you have trouble remembering when to use **HYCOR EYE DROPS**, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

If you accidentally swallow it:

Immediately phone your doctor or Poisons Information Centre (telephone 13 11 26) for advice, or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital, if you think you or anyone else may have swallowed HYCOR EYE DROPS. Do this even if there are

no signs of discomfort or poisoning. Also report any other medicine or alcohol which has been taken. You may need urgent medical attention.

Keep telephone numbers for these places handy.

While you are using HYCOR EYE DROPS

Things you must do:

Tell your doctor if you feel **HYCOR EYE DROPS** are not helping your condition.

Tell your doctor if, for any reason, you have not used your **HYCOR EYE DROPS** as prescribed. Otherwise, your doctor may think that it was not effective and change your treatment unnecessarily.

Always discuss with your doctor any problems or difficulties during or after using **HYCOR EYE DROPS**.

If you develop any other eye condition such as injury, eye surgery or infection while using **HYCOR EYE DROPS**, seek your doctor's advice concerning the continued use of **HYCOR EYE DROPS**.

Things you must not do:

Do not give **HYCOR EYE DROPS** to anyone else even though their symptoms seem similar to yours.

Do not use **HYCOR EYE DROPS** for other conditions unless your doctor tells you.

HYCOR EYE DROPS have been prescribed for you for a specific condition. If you use it for another condition, it may not work or may make the condition worse.

Do not give **HYCOR EYE DROPS** to small children.

Things to be careful of:

Do not use **HYCOR EYE DROPS** for a long time. If you use for longer than recommended or use more than the prescribed dose, the chances of absorption of the drug into the body and the chance of side effects increases.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you are concerned about the length of time you have used **HYCOR EYE DROPS**.

Side effects

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while using **HYCOR EYE DROPS**.

HYCOR EYE DROPS helps most people with the medical conditions listed at the beginning of this leaflet, but it may have unwanted side effects in some people.

All medicines have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side effects.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist any questions you may have.

Uncommon side effects

The following side effects occur uncommonly with **HYCOR EYE DROPS**:

- temporary blurred vision
- burning, stinging, redness or watering of the eyes.

There is a possibility of absorption into the body of hydrocortisone, especially if **HYCOR EYE DROPS** are used for a long time.

This may result in effects to the organs that regulate and maintain hormone levels in the body.

Your doctor will decide if there is a need for a test to monitor the hormone levels in the blood.

HYCOR EYE DROPS may cause other side effects, check with your doctor.

Check with your doctor as soon as possible if you have any problems while using **HYCOR EYE DROPS** even if you do not think the problems are connected with the medicine or are not listed on this leaflet.

Do not be alarmed by the list of side effects or their discussion. You may not experience any of them.

After using HYCOR EYE DROPS

Storage**Keep where children cannot reach.**

A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the floor is a good place to store medicines.

Store **HYCOR EYE DROPS** at 2°C - 8°C, refrigerate do not freeze.

Do not store it or any other medicines in a bathroom or near a sink.

Do not leave **HYCOR EYE DROPS** in the car or on windowsills.

Discard any of the drops still left after 4 weeks from first using them.

Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop using **HYCOR EYE DROPS**, or they pass their expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any medicine that is left over.

Product description

a) What it looks like

HYCOR EYE DROPS is a slightly thick white suspension, presented in a

plastic dropper bottle with a tamper seal.

b) Ingredients**HYCOR EYE DROPS**

contain hydrocortisone (as the free alcohol) in a sterile aqueous base thickened with hypromellose.

HYCOR EYE DROPS

contain the following non-active ingredients:

- glacial acetic acid
- sodium acetate
- polysorbate 80
- disodium edetate
- benzalkonium chloride
- carmellose sodium
- purified water

Sponsor

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Telephone 03-9839 2800

The Australian
Registration Numbers for
HYCOR EYE DROPS
are AUST R 19704
(0.5%) and AUST R
19705 (1.0%).

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