

ACIKLOVIR OPHTHALMIC OINTMENT 3%

ACIKLOVIR

• This leaflet is a copy of the Summary of Product Characteristics and Patient Information Leaflet for a medicine, which outlines the conditions under which the medicine should be used and information on its known safety • The product information may be updated several times within its shelf life, and there could be differences between the version of information shown here and other information in the public domain or in the package insert • This leaflet may not contain all the information about the medicine or the information may not be the most up to date version for this product • If you have any questions or are not sure about anything, ask your doctor or pharmacist • Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

• Keep this leaflet • You may need to read it again • If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist • This medicine has been prescribed for you only • Do not pass it on to others • It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours • If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist • This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet •

What is in this leaflet?

1. What Aciklovir is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you use Aciklovir
3. How to use Aciklovir
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Aciklovir

1. WHAT ACIKLOVIR IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

Aciklovir contains a medicine called aciclovir. This belongs to a group of medicines called antivirals. It is used to treat eye infections caused by the Herpes simplex virus. It works by killing or stopping the growth of viruses on the front of your eyeball (cornea).

2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU USE ACIKLOVIR

Do not use Aciklovir if:

- you are allergic (hypersensitive) to aciclovir or valaciclovir or any of the other ingredients (listed in Section 6).

If you are not sure, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Aciklovir.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Aciklovir if:

- you wear contact lenses. Stop wearing them while using Aciklovir.

If you are not sure, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Aciklovir.

Other medicines and Aciklovir

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines. This includes medicines obtained without prescription, including herbal medicines.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before using any medicine.

Driving and Using Machines

You may experience blurred vision after using Aciklovir Eye Ointment.

Do not drive or use any machines unless your vision is clear.

3. HOW TO USE ACIKLOVIR

Always use Aciklovir exactly as your doctor has told you.

You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Adults and children

- The usual dose is 1cm (about 1/2 an inch) of Aciklovir applied to the infected eye five times a day. You should space each application of Aciklovir by four hours. Suggested times are: 7am, 11am, 3pm, 7pm and 11pm.
- You should carry on using Aciklovir for at least 3 days after your eye has got better.
- Your vision may be blurred for 5 to 10 minutes after applying Aciklovir. Wait until you can see clearly again before driving or using any tools or machines.

How to apply Aciklovir to your eye

1. Wash your hands.
2. Use your finger to gently pull down the lower eyelid of your infected eye.
3. Tilt your head slightly backwards and look up.
4. Apply 1cm (about 1/2 an inch) of Aciklovir to the inside of your lower eyelid. Try to avoid the tip of the tube touching any part of your eye.
5. Close your eye for 30 seconds.
6. Wash your hands after applying Aciklovir.



If you use more Aciklovir than you should

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you use too much Aciklovir. Aciklovir eye ointment is for use in the eye, if you swallow any talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

If you forget to use Aciklovir

- If you forget to use Aciklovir, use it as soon as you remember. However, if it is nearly time for your next application, skip the missed application.
- Do not use a double application to make up for a forgotten application.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines, Aciklovir can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. The following side effects may happen with this medicine:

Allergic reactions (affects less than 1 in 10,000 people)

If you have an allergic reaction, stop using Aciklovir and see a doctor straight away. The signs may include:

- rash, itching or hives on your skin
- swelling of your face, lips, tongue or other parts of your body
- shortness of breath, wheezing or trouble breathing
- unexplained fever (high temperature) and feeling faint, especially when standing up.

Other side effects include:

Very common (affects more than 1 in 10 people)

- irritation or feeling as if there is something in your eye.

Common (affects less than 1 in 100 people)

- mild stinging in your eye straight after using Aciklovir
- swollen, runny eyes (conjunctivitis).

Rare (affects less than 1 in 1,000 people)

- swollen eyelids.

If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. HOW TO STORE ACIKLOVIR

- Do not store above 25°C.
- Put the lid back on the tube after each time that you have used it.
- Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not use the ointment if more than one month has passed since the tube was first opened.
- If your doctor tells you to stop using the ointment, please take it back to the pharmacist for safe disposal. Only keep the ointment if your doctor tells you to.
- If the ointment become discoloured or watery or shows any other signs of deterioration, you should seek the advice of your pharmacist who will tell you what to do.
- Do not throw away medicines via wastewater or household waste.

Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.