Chloramphenicol 1.0% w/w Antibiotic Eye Ointment

1. What Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment is and what it is used for

Chloramphenicol belongs to a group of medicines called antibiotics. Antibiotics are used for infections caused by bacteria.

Chloramphenicol eye ointment is for simple eye infections called 'acute bacterial conjunctivitis'. This is sometimes known as 'red eye' because the white part of the affected eye(s) will be red and/or the eyelid(s) will be red or swollen. There may also be a sticky discharge which can make the eye difficult to open in the morning, and the eye may feel 'gritty' or irritated.

2. What you need to know before you use Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment

Do not use the ointment if:

• You are allergic to Chloramphenicol or any of the other ingredients of this medicine listed in section 6.
• You are a member of your family has had problems with thin blood or bone marrow.
• You have had a blood transfusion in the last 6 months.

Warnings and precautions

Tell your doctor if:

• You have had an eye injury in the past month.
• You have glaucoma (high pressure inside your eye).
• You have a 'dry eye syndrome'.

• You think there may be something in your eye or you have splashed something in your eye.
• You are already using other eye drops or eye ointment.
• You have had eye surgery or laser treatment in the last 6 months.

If you use contact lenses, seek advice either from your contact lenses practitioner (optician, optometrist) or doctor before you use this product.

• Do not wear your contact lenses during the course of treatment.
• If you wear soft contact lenses, you should stop wearing them for at least 24 hours after you have finished the eye ointment.

Other medicines and Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

• Medications which may affect your bone marrow

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Cautions should be considered essential by your doctor, as the effects are unknown.

• If you are a pregnant or breast-feeding, think of medicines which may affect your bone marrow

Driving and using machines

The ointment may cause blurred vision due to smearing or stinging.

• This will only happen for a short period after it is put in your eye.

• If this happens do not drive or use machinery until you can see clearly.

3. How to use Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment

Chloramphenicol eye ointment is by placing a small amount (about 1 cm) in the space between the lower eyelid and the eye.

Always follow your pharmacist’s instructions.

• Do not take it by mouth

Ointment contains

4. Contents of the pack and other information

Chloramphenicol eye ointment is used by

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5. How to store Chloramphenicol

Adults and children aged 2 years

Always follow your pharmacist’s instructions.

• If you are using Chloramphenicol eye drops during the day and the eye ointment at night - apply the ointment at night, before going to bed.

Your pharmacist will advise which is the most suitable treatment for you.

When using the ointment

Do not repeat the course of treatment without consulting your doctor or pharmacist.

If you forget to take Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment

If you miss a dose, use the ointment as directed above and then continue your normal course of treatment. Do not share your eye ointment with anyone else.

If you use more Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment than you should

If you do not finish the tube of ointment over the eye

Do not use Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment for more than 10 days

• If you are using chloramphenicol for the following side effects:

Rare side effects include:

• Bone marrow depression (a condition where the marrow is unable to produce blood cells) • A reduced production and death of red blood cells (anaemia)

Possible side effects include:

• Burning
• Itching
• Irritation

Reporting of side effects

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

You can report side effects via the Yellow Card Scheme at: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment contains

You can report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard.

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

5. How to store Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment after the expiry date printed on the container of the tube. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month. Once the tube is open use within 28 days.

You are advised to dispose of the tube once you have finished your 10 day course of treatment. The medicine needs to be stored below 25°C.

You should not use Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment if:

• You have a sore throat, bruising or being unable to overcome an infection. On very rare occasions, patients using chloramphenicol have had changes in their blood cells causing severe tiredness or easy bruising.

Possible side effects include:

• Burning
• Itching
• Irritation

Rare side effects include:

• Bone marrow depression (a condition where the marrow is unable to produce blood cells)
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Possible side effects include:

• Burning
• Itching
• Irritation

Rare side effects include:

• Bone marrow depression (a condition where the marrow is unable to produce blood cells)
• A reduced production and death of red blood cells (anaemia)

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You can report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard.

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.
If you wear contact lenses, seek advice from your contact lens practitioner (optician, optometrist) or doctor before you use this product.

- You should not wear your contact lenses during the course of treatment.
- If you wear soft contact lenses do not start wearing them again for at least 24 hours after you have finished the eye ointment.

Other medicines and Chlomaphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment
Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, especially:

- Other eye medicines or eye drops
- Medicines which may affect your bone marrow.

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet:

1. What Chlomaphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment is and what it is used for

Chlomaphenicol belongs to a group of medicines called antibiotics. Antibiotics are used for infections caused by bacteria.

Chlomaphenicol eye ointment is used for simple eye infections called "acute bacterial conjunctivitis". This is sometimes known as "red eye" because the white part of the affected eye(s) will be red and/or the eyelid(s) will be red or swollen. There may also be a sticky discharge which can make the eye difficult to open in the morning, and the eye may feel 'gritty' or irriated.

2. What you need to know before you use Chlomaphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment

Do not use the ointment:

- You are allergic to Chlomaphenicol or any of the other ingredients of this medicine listed in section 6.
- You or a member of your family has had problems with their blood or bone marrow.
- You are already using other eye drops or eye ointment.
- You think there may be something in your eye.
- You have “dry eye syndrome”.
- Your eye looks cloudy.
- You have had eye surgery or laser treatment in the last 6 months.

Chlomaphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment is supplied in a smooth yellow ointment container (about 4 grams) fitted in a tube. The ointment may cause blurred vision due to smoking or stinging.

This will only happen for a short period after it is put in your eye.

If this happens do not drive or use machinery until you are sure your vision is clear.

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Driving and using machines

Before using this medicine.

Do not use Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment if:

- You are pregnant or breast-feeding.
- You are using any other medicine or herbal supplement.
- You have a reduced production and death of red blood cells.
- You have problems with your blood or bone marrow.
- You are allergic to any of the ingredients of this medicine.
- You have had changes in their blood cells causing severe tiredness or easy bruising.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if:

- You have not worn contact lenses for at least 24 hours after you have finished the eye ointment.
- You are already wearing contact lenses.
- You have had eye surgery or laser treatment in the last 6 months.
- You are not sure what your contact lenses are made of.
- You have had eye surgery or laser treatment.
- You are not sure what your contact lenses are made of.
- You use contact lenses and have any of the following side effects:
  - Burning
  - Aching
  - Redness
  - Swelling
  - Removal of your contact lenses
  - Irritation
  - Mild inflammation of the skin (dermatitis)
  - Mild stinging
  - Puffiness (swelling) of eyelids

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if:

- You are using Chloramphenicol eye drops.
- You are using Chloramphenicol eye ointment alone, or in combination with other products.
- You have other eye problems.
- You are not sure what your contact lenses are made of.
- You have had eye surgery or laser treatment in the last 6 months.
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Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you use more Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment than you should.

If you use more Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment, you may have side effects. This will only happen for a short period after it is put in your eye.

If this happens do not drive or use machinery until you are sure your vision is clear.

Possible side effects include:

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- Aching
- Redness
- Swelling
- Removal of your contact lenses
- Irritation
- Mild inflammation of the skin (dermatitis)
- Mild stinging
- Puffiness (swelling) of eyelids

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you stare your doctor straight away or go to your nearest hospital casualty department if you:

- Experience any of the above side effects.
- Do not do any driving or use machinery until you are sure your vision is clear.

Driving and using machines

Before using this medicine.

Do not use Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment if:

- You have reduced vision or you cannot see.
- You have a reduced production of red blood cells.
- You have problems with your blood or bone marrow.
- You are already wearing contact lenses.
- You have had changes in their blood cells causing severe tiredness or easy bruising.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if:

- You are already taking any other medicines.
- You have problems with your blood or bone marrow.
- You are allergic to any of the ingredients of this medicine.
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