

Fluorouracil (flure-oh-YOOR-a-sill)

Also Known As: Efudex[®], Carac[®]

Imiquimod (i-mi-KWI-mod)

Also Known As: Aldara[™]

These medicines are used to treat pre-cancerous skin lesions. Putting them on the skin helps to destroy precancerous and cancerous skin lesions. Your doctor has prescribed one of these medicines for you.

How It Is Given:

Topically, a cream or liquid solution is applied to the skin

Apply to the: _____ Scalp, _____ Forehead, _____ Cheeks, _____ Nose, _____ Chin, (Other area : _____)

Apply the medicine _____ times a day for _____ weeks.

Instructions:

- Wash the affected area gently with soap that does not have perfume. Soaps you can use are Aquanil[®], Cetaphil[®], or Neutrogena[®].
- Pat the skin dry thoroughly.
- Apply the medicine with the tip of your finger. Use a thin coat to completely cover the area of skin your doctor said needs treatment.
- Apply the medicine carefully. Do not let it in your eyes, mouth, and the inside of your nose. DO NOT apply it into the deep furrows or creases of your face.
- Wash your hands immediately.
- DO NOT use the medicine within an hour of bedtime. This prevents it from being rubbed or wiped on a pillow or spreading into your eyes.

Early Side Effect:

- The affected area will become red in three to five days.

Late Side Effects:

All these reactions subside as the affected lesion heals.

- Your skin may blister, crack, and peel after initial redness occurs.
- Skin lesions may develop into open sores.

- Pain and discomfort can occur, especially when you put the medicine on.
- Itchiness of the skin may occur.
- Oozing of the skin can occur.

You can use bland moisturizers to relieve the drying and cracking. Try plain white petrolatum, Aquaphor Cream[®], or Eucerin Cream[®]. Use as much as you like. Wait ONE FULL HOUR after you put the medicine on the affected areas before applying moisturizers.

Special Points:

- Your skin may look worse while you are on therapy. This is an indication that the medicine is working and should be continued.
- The treated skin will flake away.
- The skin may be red for several months after treatment is stopped. It will get better over time.
- Treatment usually lasts two to five weeks.
- Protect your skin from the sun. Wear protective clothing and use a sunscreen (SPF of 30) when in the sun.
- Do not use perfumed soaps, cosmetics, or lotions on affected skin lesions.
- Store the medicine away from heat and direct sunlight.
- Be sure to tell your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.
- Do not treat new or different lesions without asking your doctor.
- Use the medicine only on the areas your doctor told you to treat.

Call Your Doctor Of Nurse If You Have Any:

- Redness or swelling of untreated skin.
- Temperature of 38° C (100.5° F) or higher.
- Unexpected or unexplained problems.
- Questions or concerns.

The information on this card is selective and does not cover all possible side effects; others may occur. Please report any problems to your doctor.

