

# Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution

## CONSUMER MEDICINE INFORMATION

### What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution. It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have benefits and risks. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you using Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution against the benefits this product is expected to have for you.

This medicine is likely to be used while you are at the clinic or in hospital. If possible, read this leaflet carefully before this medicine is given to you. In some cases this leaflet may be given to you after the medicine has been used.

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

**Keep this leaflet.**

You may need to read it again.

### What Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution is used for

Your doctor or nurse will use Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution for cleansing and irrigating the skin or dirty wounds. It contains antiseptics which will help prevent infection.

### Before you use Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution

**Do not use it after the expiry date (EXP) printed on the label.**

It may have no effect at all, or worse, an entirely unexpected effect if you take it after the expiry date.

**Do not use Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.**

Wounds may take longer to heal if cetrimide is used regularly. Therefore it is important to use this product as directed by the doctor.

**You must tell your doctor if you have allergies to:**

- chlorhexidine
- cetrimide
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet
- any other substances, such as foods, preservatives or dyes

If you have an allergic reaction, you may get a skin rash.

**Before any Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution is used please tell your doctor about any of these things and anything else which you feel is important.**

### How Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution is used

Your doctor or nurse will normally use this irrigation to wash and clean your skin or wounds. It is for external use only and should not be injected or swallowed. It should not be used in the eyes or ears.

Your doctor or nurse will decide how much of the irrigation to use which will be sufficient for your needs. As each irrigation is sterile, your doctor will use a new solution each time.

If you are given this product to use at home it must be used as directed by your doctor or nurse. Rinse the area to be cleaned with water, then use the smallest amount of irrigation to gently wash the area. Rinse again with water thoroughly. Use a new solution each time.

Your doctor or nurse will be happy to discuss the way the Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution will be used.

#### **Overdose:**

As your doctor or nurse will administer this irrigation, they will use the correct amount. As it is for external use only, it is unlikely an overdose will occur.

**Immediately telephone your doctor or the Poisons Information Centre (telephone 13 11 26) for advice, or go to your nearest hospital emergency department if you think that someone may have drunk**

**Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution or if it has been put into the eyes or ears, even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.**

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## Side effects

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Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution helps most people when used for washing and cleansing the skin or wounds, but it may have some unwanted side-effects in a few people.

All medicines can 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.

**Tell your doctor if you experience a skin rash or reaction.**

If you get a skin rash it may be because you have had an allergic reaction to the irrigation. If this is the case, you should no longer use this irrigation.

Tell your doctor, nurse or pharmacist as soon as possible if you have any allergic reaction or feel anything unusual during or after Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution has been used.

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## Storage

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**If you have this product at home, it should be kept in the original container, in a safe place, out of reach of children.**

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

Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution should be stored below 25 degrees C and protected from light.

**Do not leave Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution in the car on hot days.**

## Disposal

Do not exceed the stated expiry date printed on the label

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## Product Description

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### *What it looks like*

Chlorhexidine and Cetrimide Irrigation Solution is a sterile, orange solution and comes in a 30 mL plastic Steritube® ampoule. Pack size: 30 units.

### *Ingredients*

Chlorhexidine 0.015% w/v and Cetrimide 0.15% w/v Irrigation Solution contains chlorhexidine gluconate and cetrimide as the active ingredients and the excipients:

- sunset yellow FCF
- purified water.

Chlorhexidine 0.05% w/v and Cetrimide 0.5% w/v Irrigation Solution contains chlorhexidine gluconate and cetrimide as the active ingredients and the excipients:

- sunset yellow FCF
- purified water.

AUST R 57021

Chlorhexidine 0.015% and Cetrimide 0.15% Irrigation Solution 30 mL Steritube® ampoule.

AUST R 57011

Chlorhexidine (0.05%) and Cetrimide (0.5%) Irrigation Solution 30 mL Steritube® ampoule.

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