

LOCACORTEN- VIOFORM LOCACORTEN- VIOFORM® EARDROPS

(flumethasone pivalate-
iodochlorhydroxyquin)

Indications

Cream and Ointment

The treatment of skin disorders complicated by bacterial and/or fungal infections with concomitant adequate systemic antibiotic cover, if necessary. Recommended for preventing secondary infections, especially those associated with occlusive dressing therapy.

Eardrops

Otitis externa.
Otomycosis including that due to *Aspergillus niger*.
Chronic suppurative otitis media.
Furunculosis of the external auditory canal.
Infected mastoid cavities.
Acute otitis media — as adjunctive therapy to, but never instead of, appropriate systemic antibiotics.

Contraindications

Iodine hypersensitivity, tuberculosis of the skin, chicken-pox, skin eruptions following vaccination or in viral diseases of the skin in general, and in pregnancy. Locacorten-Vioform should not be employed to treat eye disorders or syphilitic skin affections.

Precautions

Vioform, as well as other iodine containing compounds, interferes with some thyroid function tests (such as PBI, radioactive iodine and butanol-extractable iodine) which should therefore not be performed within a period shorter than 3 months following the use of Locacorten-Vioform. Other thyroid function tests, such as the T₁ resin sponge test, or the T₄ determination, are unaffected.

Corticosteroids are known to be absorbed percutaneously, therefore in patients undergoing prolonged therapy, the possibility of metabolic systemic effects should be kept in mind. Patients should as a general rule, be advised to inform subsequent physicians of the prior use of corticosteroids. Locacorten-Vioform may cause staining of the skin, nails or fabrics.

Adverse Reactions

The following local adverse reactions have been reported with topical corticosteroids: burning sensation, itching, irritation, dryness, folliculitis, hypertrichosis, acneiform eruptions, hypopigmentation. The following may occur more frequently with occlusive dressings than without such therapy: maceration of the skin, secondary infection, skin atrophy, striae miliaria.

Although rare, sensitivity to Vioform may develop. If an exacerbation or allergic reaction occurs, treatment with Locacorten-Vioform should be discontinued.

Dosage

Cream and Ointment

Locacorten-Vioform should be applied to the affected areas in a thin film three or four times daily. The site may, if necessary, be covered by a protective dressing. Treatment should be continued for at least a few days after clearing of the lesions.

Eardrops

After cleansing the external meatus, 2-3 drops should be instilled twice daily, or more often if required. Free drainage assists return to normal, but in severe cases it may be thought desirable to pack the ear lightly with a gauze strip moistened with the solution, replacing this dressing as necessary.

Supplied

Cream, in a water washable base and Ointment, in a petrolatum base contain: 0.02% Locacorten (flumethasone pivalate) and 3% Vioform (iodochlorhydroxyquin); tubes of 15 and 50 g.

Eardrops contain: flumethasone pivalate 0.02% iodochlorhydroxyquin 1%; controlled-drop dispensers of 10 ml.

C I B A

MISSISSAUGA, ONT.
LSN 2W5

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Dr. Dawrant and our Committee are in basic agreement on one thing—family physicians are underpaid on an item-by-item basis. However, we do believe that being armed with up to date, independently collected, accurate statistics on our status will be beneficial in improving our economic position in order to maintain or improve the quality of services that we can provide until such time as more physicians in Canada become sufficiently militant to confront the paymaster. In our judgment, up to this time, the troops have just not been ready to go to war!

J. A. Wright
Owen Sound, ON.

New College In Sri Lanka

The College of General Practitioners of Sri Lanka has involved itself in a new and exciting project outside the field of postgraduate family medicine. It has decided to open a new undergraduate medical college with an intake of over 100 students per year. The medical college will be fee levying and non-profit making and will open in October 1981.

The Sri Lankan College of General Practitioners intends giving the undergraduates a family practice orientation in their curriculum and also to use the medical college as an institutional base for its general practitioner activities.

The College is now on a world wide search for suitably qualified teachers. They request any doctors who are qualified to teach and wish to be on the staff of the new school which will be called "The North Colombo Medical College" to communicate early. The appointments could be made on a short-term or longterm basis.

Dr. Dennis J. Aloysius, Chairman
North Colombo Medical College
6 Voyerama Mawatha
Colombo 7
Sri Lanka

What Can We Prevent?

In answer to Dr. J. T. Biehn's letter in the April issue ("Practicing Preven-

tion", Can Fam Physician 1981; 27:562) in which he asks, "What are we trying to prevent?", I would answer as follows.

We are trying to prevent heart disease, cancer, motor vehicle accidents, and a host of other chronic diseases. Dr. Biehn's comment, "We will all die sometime", is a fatalistic, redundant statement. The associative evidence is increasing for a connection between diet, stress, lack of physical exercise, and personality, in most of the degenerative diseases which beset us.

While there is no scientific proof that these factors increase longevity, the associations are strong enough for us to persuade our patients that a change in lifestyle is mandatory for a long and healthy life. It may take another 100 years before we are able to 'prove' that these changes will result in a decreased incidence of chronic disease. However the fact remains that people *feel* better when they improve their diet, when they increase their physical activity, when they learn to deal with stress, and when they are more emotionally expressive. And when you feel better, you *are* better. It's common sense—you've got it, use it!

Edward Leyton
Kingston, ON.

Aspirin: A Trademark

In your April 1981 issue you ran an article on page 587 entitled "Coated Aspirin Regimens Studied".

The use of the word Aspirin in the title of this article and throughout the body of the item is not correct. In Canada, Aspirin is the registered trademark of Sterling Drug Ltd. and should only be used in reference to our brand of acetylsalicylic acid tablets.

J. P. Kiefer
Sterling Drug Ltd.
Aurora, ON.

GC Screening: How Expensive?

In the article on "Screening Females for Gonorrhoea" (Can Fam Physician