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2. Tropicamide

Tropicamide ophthalmic

Generic name: tropicamide ophthalmic [*troe-PIK-a-mide-off-THAL-mik*]**Brand names:** [Mydracyl](#), [Tropicacyl](#), Opticyl, [Mydral](#), [Ocu-Tropic](#)**Dosage form:** ophthalmic solution (0.5%; 1%)**Drug class:** [Mydriatics](#)[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Mar 13, 2025. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#)

What is tropicamide ophthalmic?

Tropicamide causes muscles in the eye to become relaxed. This dilates (widens) the pupil so that it does not [react](#) (narrow) when your doctor shines an examination light into your eye.

Tropicamide ophthalmic (for the eyes) is used to dilate the pupil for an eye examination or other diagnostic procedure.

Tropicamide ophthalmic may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

Tropicamide ophthalmic side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction:** hives; difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Tropicamide ophthalmic may cause serious side effects. Call your doctor at once if you have:

- unusual changes in mood or behavior;
- a fast, slow, or uneven heart rate;
- [shortness of breath](#); or
- a light-headed feeling, like you might pass out.

Common side effects of tropicamide ophthalmic may include:

- blurred vision;
- mild stinging of the eyes;
- your eyes may be more sensitive to light;
- [dry mouth](#); or
- [headache](#).

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Tropicamide ophthalmic side effects](#) (more detail)

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Warnings

Protect your eyes from bright light while your pupils are dilated.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use tropicamide ophthalmic if you are allergic to it.

To make sure tropicamide ophthalmic is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have:

- [glaucoma](#); or
- any drug allergies.

It is not known whether this medicine will harm an unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant.

It is not known whether tropicamide ophthalmic passes into breast milk or if it could harm a nursing baby. Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding a baby.

Do not give this medicine to a child without medical advice.

How should I use tropicamide ophthalmic?

Follow all directions on your prescription label. Do not use this medicine in larger or smaller amounts or for longer than recommended.

Tropicamide ophthalmic is most often used only in a doctor's office during an eye examination. Instructions are provided below for giving yourself the medicine if your doctor has prescribed it for home use.

Do not take by mouth. Tropicamide ophthalmic is for use only in the eyes.

Do not use this medicine while wearing contact lenses. Tropicamide ophthalmic may contain a preservative that can discolor soft contact lenses. It may be best to wait until your eyes are no longer dilated before putting in your contact lenses.

Wash your hands before and after using the eye drops. **Because a child might rub his or her eyes after the drops are given, wash the child's hands after use.**

To apply the **eye drops**:

- Tilt your head back slightly and pull down your lower eyelid to create a small pocket. Hold the dropper above the eye with the tip down. Look up and away from the dropper and squeeze out a drop.
- Close your eyes for 2 or 3 minutes with your head tipped down, without blinking or squinting. Gently press your finger to the inside corner of the eye for 1 to 3 minutes, to keep the liquid from draining into your tear duct.
- Use only the number of drops your doctor has prescribed. If you use more than one drop, wait about 5 minutes between drops.

Do not touch the tip of the eye dropper or place it directly on your eye. A contaminated dropper can infect your eye, which could lead to serious vision problems.

Do not use the eye drops if the liquid has changed colors or has particles in it. Call your pharmacist for new medicine.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat. Do not freeze. Keep the bottle tightly closed when not in use.

Tropicamide ophthalmic dosing information

Usual Adult Dose for Refraction:

Cycloplegic Refraction:

-Instill 1 or 2 drops of the 1% solution into eye(s); repeat in 5 minutes.

Comment:

-An additional drop may be given if the examination is not done within 20 to 30 minutes.

Use: To produce [mydriasis](#) and cycloplegia for diagnostic procedures.

Usual Adult Dose for Pupillary Dilation:

Fundoscopy:

-Instill 1 or 2 drops of 0.5% solution into eye(s) 15 or 20 minutes prior to examination.

Comments:

-Heavily pigmented irides may require higher strength or more doses.

Use: To produce mydriasis and cycloplegia for diagnostic procedures.

Usual Pediatric Dose for Refraction:

Cycloplegic Refraction:

-Instill 1 or 2 drops of the 1% solution into eye(s); repeat in 5 minutes.

Comment:

-An additional drop may be given if the examination is not done within 20 to 30 minutes.

Use: To produce mydriasis and cycloplegia for diagnostic procedures.

Usual Pediatric Dose for Pupillary Dilation:

Fundoscopy:

-Instill 1 or 2 drops of 0.5% solution into eye(s) 15 or 20 minutes prior to examination.

Comments:

-Heavily pigmented irides may require higher strength or more doses.

Use: To produce mydriasis and cycloplegia for diagnostic procedures.

 [Detailed Tropicamide ophthalmic dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Since tropicamide ophthalmic is usually given only during an eye exam, it is not likely that you will be on a dosing schedule.

If you are on a schedule, apply the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next dose. **Do not** use extra medicine to make up the missed dose.

What happens if I overdose?

An overdose of tropicamide ophthalmic is not expected to be dangerous. Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222 if anyone has accidentally swallowed the medication.

What should I avoid while using tropicamide ophthalmic?

tropicamide ophthalmic may cause blurred vision, or make your eyes very sensitive to light. Be careful if you drive or do anything that requires you to be able to see clearly. This effect may last as long as 24 hours.

Protect your eyes from bright light while your pupils are dilated.

Unless your doctor tells you to, avoid using other eye medications until your pupils are no longer dilated.

What other drugs will affect tropicamide ophthalmic?

It is not likely that other drugs you take orally or inject will have an effect on tropicamide used in the eyes. But many drugs can interact with each other. Tell your doctor about all your current medicines and any you start or stop using, especially:

- glaucoma medication.

This list is not complete. Other drugs may interact with tropicamide ophthalmic, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). Not all possible interactions are listed in this medication guide.

i [Tropicamide ophthalmic drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does tropicamide ophthalmic interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

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Other brands

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Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

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DRUG STATUS

Availability

Rx Prescription only


Pregnancy & Lactation

 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*

N/A Not a controlled drug

Approval History

 Drug history at FDA



User Reviews & Ratings

2.2 / 10

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