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2. Phenol

## Phenol topical

**Generic name:** phenol topical [ *FEE-nol-TOH-i-kal* ]

**Brand names:** [Castellani Paint](#), [Cepastat Extra Strength](#), Chloraseptic Cherry, Chloraseptic Citrus, Chloraseptic Cool Mint, ... [show all 41 brands](#)

**Dosage forms:** mucous membrane liquid (0.6%), mucous membrane lozenge (29 mg), topical liquid (-; 1.5%; 89%), ... [show all 6 dosage forms](#)

**Drug class:** [Topical anesthetics](#)



[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Aug 3, 2023. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).

[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [What to avoid](#) [Interactions](#)

### What is phenol topical?

Phenol topical is used on the skin to help protect skin from [infection](#) in [minor cuts](#), [scrapes](#), or burns.

Phenol topical is used on the scalp to treat [dandruff](#).

Some forms of phenol topical are used inside the mouth to provide temporary relief of minor mouth pain or irritation, [sore throat](#), or canker sore pain.

Phenol topical may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

### Phenol topical 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.

Less serious side effects may be more likely, and you may have none at all.

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.



[Phenol topical side effects](#) (more detail)

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## Warnings

Use exactly as directed on the label, or as prescribed by your doctor.

## Before taking this medicine

You should not use phenol topical if you are allergic to it.

Ask a doctor or pharmacist if phenol topical is safe to use if you have any medical conditions or allergies.

If you are breastfeeding, avoid applying this medicine to breast areas that may come into contact with the baby's mouth.

## How should I use phenol topical?

Use exactly as directed on the label, or as prescribed by your doctor.

Phenol topical is available in many different forms, such as a liquid, swab, ointment, spray, and lozenge. **Read and carefully follow any Instructions for Use provided with your medicine.** Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you do not understand these instructions.

**Always follow directions on the medicine label about using this medicine on a child.** Some forms of phenol topical should not be used in children of certain ages.

Phenol topical may be **applied to the skin** as needed. First clean the area to be treated.

Before using phenol topical on the skin, you may first apply a small amount of this medicine to make sure you won't have a skin reaction.

Do not use phenol topical on deep wounds, puncture wounds, animal bites, or serious burns. Do not apply over large skin areas. Do not apply a bandage over the treated skin.

Phenol topical may be used **in the mouth** once every 2 hours as needed. A child 6 to 12 years old should not use more

than 10 lozenges in 24 hours.

**Do not use phenol topical in the mouth if you are using a form that is made for use only on the skin.**

To use phenol topical **spray** in the mouth, spray directly into the mouth or throat. Leave the medicine in place for 15 seconds, then spit it out. Avoid swallowing the spray.

To use phenol topical as a mouth **rinse**, gargle or swish the liquid for 15 seconds, then spit it out. Do not swallow the liquid.

To use a phenol topical as a **lozenge**, hold the lozenge in your mouth and allow it to dissolve slowly.

While using this medicine in the mouth or on the skin, seek medical advice if you have new or worsening symptoms of pain, redness, swelling, [rash](#), or [fever](#).

Call your doctor if your sore throat is severe or ongoing after 2 days, or if you also have a high fever, [headache](#), [nausea](#), and [vomiting](#).

Do not allow a child younger than 12 years old to use this medicine without help from an adult.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat. Do not refrigerate.

Each phenol topical **swab** is for one use only.

Some forms of phenol topical can stain skin and clothing. Use caution to avoid spilling the medicine.

## What happens if I miss a dose?

Skip the missed dose and use your next dose at the regular time. **Do not** use two doses at one time.

## What happens if I overdose?

An overdose of phenol topical 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 medicine.

## What should I avoid while using phenol topical?

Avoid getting phenol topical in your eyes.

## What other drugs will affect phenol topical?

Medicine used on the skin is not likely to be affected by other drugs you use. But many drugs can interact with each other. Tell each of your healthcare providers about all medicines you use, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#).

## Does phenol topical interact with my other drugs?

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

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phenol topical

+

Enter a drug name

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## Patient resources

- [Phenol advanced reading](#)
- [Phenol Oral Spray and Rinse](#)
- [Phenol Topical Solution](#)

## Other brands

[Chloraseptic Sore Throat Spray](#), [Pain-A-Lay Gargle](#), [Unguentine](#), [Ora Relief Throat](#), ... +7 more

## Professional resources

- [Carbol-Fuchsin Topical Solution monograph](#)

## Related treatment guides

- [Sore Throat](#)
- [Tonsillitis/Pharyngitis](#)

## 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.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

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DRUG STATUS

**Availability**  
**Rx** Rx and/or OTC

**CSA Schedule\***  
**N/A** Not a controlled drug



User Reviews & Ratings

5.2 / 10

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