

[Home](#)

2. Inova

Inova

Generic name: [benzoyl peroxide topical](#) [BEN-zoyl-per-OX-ide]**Brand names:** Acne Foaming Cream Face Cleanser, [Acne-Clear](#), [Benzac AC](#), [Benzac AC Wash](#), [Benzac W](#), ... [show all 37 brands](#)**Drug class:** [Topical acne agents](#)[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Jul 26, 2023. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#) [FAQ](#)

What is Inova?

[Benzoyl peroxide](#) has an antibacterial effect. It also has a mild drying effect, which allows excess oils and dirt to be easily washed away from the skin.

Inova (for the skin) is used to treat acne.

There are many brands and forms of benzoyl peroxide available. Not all brands are listed on this leaflet.

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

Inova side effects

Inova can cause a rare but serious allergic reaction or severe skin irritation. These reactions may occur just a few minutes after you apply the medicine, or within a day or longer afterward.

Stop using Inova and get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction**: hives, [itching](#); difficult breathing, feeling light-headed; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Stop using benzoyl peroxide and call your doctor at once if you have any of these side effects on the treated skin:

- severe itching or burning;
- severe stinging or redness;
- swelling; or
- peeling.

Common side effects of Inova may include:

- mild stinging or burning;
- itching or tingly feeling;

- skin dryness, peeling, or flaking; or
- redness or other irritation.

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.

 [Inova side effects](#) (more detail)

Related/similar drugs

Accutane

Accutane (isotretinoin) is a form of vitamin A and is used to treat severe nodular acne. Includes ...

Reviews & ratings

7.9 / 10

[657 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

FEATURED

Omvox

Omvox is used to treat moderate to severe ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease in adults. This ...

Reviews & ratings

[1 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Tazorac

Tazorac cream and gel is used to treat acne and plaque psoriasis. Includes Tazorac side effects ...

Reviews & ratings

7.9 / 10

[38 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Warnings

Benzoyl peroxide can cause a rare but serious allergic reaction or severe skin irritation. Stop using this medicine

and get emergency medical help if you have: hives, itching; difficult breathing, feeling light-headed; or swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use benzoyl peroxide if you are allergic to it, or if you have:

- very sensitive skin.

Ask a doctor or pharmacist if Inova is safe to use if you have any [skin conditions](#) or allergies.

Ask a doctor before using this medicine if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Do not use this medicine on a child without medical advice.

How should I use Inova?

Inova can cause a rare but serious allergic reaction or severe skin irritation. Before you start using this medicine, you may choose to apply a "test dose" to see if you have a reaction. Apply a very small amount of the medicine to 1 or 2 small acne areas every day for 3 days in a row. If there is no reaction, begin using the full prescribed amount on the 4th day.

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

Do not take by mouth. Topical medicine is for use only on the skin. Do not use on open wounds or on sunburned, windburned, dry, or irritated skin. Also avoid using Inova on wounds or on areas of [eczema](#). Wait until these conditions have healed before using this medication.

Wash your hands before and after applying this medication.

Clean and pat dry the skin to be treated. Apply benzoyl peroxide in a thin layer and rub in gently.

Read and carefully follow any Instructions for Use provided with your medicine. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you do not understand these instructions.

You may need to shake the medicine just before each use.

Do not cover the treated skin area unless your doctor has told you to.

Benzoyl peroxide may bleach hair or fabrics. Avoid allowing this medication to come into contact with your hair or clothing.

It may take several weeks before your symptoms improve. Keep using the medication as directed and tell your doctor if your symptoms do not improve.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat.

 [Detailed Inova dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Apply the medicine as soon as you can, but skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next dose. **Do not** apply two doses at one time.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

What should I avoid while using Inova?

Rinse with water if Inova gets in your eyes or mouth.

Avoid using skin products that can cause irritation, such as harsh soaps, shampoos, hair coloring or permanent chemicals, hair removers or waxes, or skin products with alcohol, spices, astringents, or lime.

Avoid exposure to sunlight or tanning beds. Wear protective clothing and use [sunscreen](#) (SPF 30 or higher) when you are outdoors.

What other drugs will affect Inova?

Applying benzoyl peroxide while you are also using tretinoin topical medicine may cause severe skin irritation.

Brands that contain [tretinoin](#) include [Avita](#), [Renova](#), [Retin-A](#), [Tretin-X](#), and others.

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 health care providers about all medicines you use, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#).

 [Inova drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does Inova interact with my other drugs?

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

+

Add

Popular FAQ

Does doxycycline work for acne?



More FAQ

- [Can you buy antibiotics over the counter?](#)

More about Inova (benzoyl peroxide topical)

- [Check interactions](#)
- [Compare alternatives](#)
- [Side effects](#)
- [Dosage information](#)
- [During pregnancy](#)
- [Drug class: topical acne agents](#)
- [Breastfeeding](#)
- [En español](#)

Patient resources

Other brands

[Benzac](#), [Epsolay](#), [Acne-Clear](#), [Oxy-10](#), ... +37 more

Professional resources

- [Benzoyl Peroxide Wash prescribing information](#)

Other brands

[Epsolay](#), [Enzoclear Foam](#), [BenzePro](#), [BPO 6 Foaming Cloths](#)

Other formulations

- [Inova 4/1 topical](#)
- [Inova 8/2 topical](#)

Related treatment guides

- [Acne](#)
- [Perioral Dermatitis](#)

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](#)

Copyright 1996-2025 Cerner Multum, Inc. Version: 12.01.

DRUG STATUS

Availability

Rx Prescription only

Pregnancy & Lactation

 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*

N/A Not a controlled drug



User Reviews & Ratings

[Review this drug](#)

Related News

[Small Number of Acne Products Recalled for Problematic Levels of Benzene](#)

Drugs.com Mobile App

Access drug & treatment information, identify pills, check interactions and set up personal medication records.



About

[About Drugs.com](#)

[Advertising policy](#)

[Attribution & citations](#)

Terms & privacy

[Terms of use](#)

[Editorial policy](#)

[Privacy policy](#)

Support

[Help center](#)

[Sitemap](#)

[Contact us](#)



[Subscribe to our newsletter](#) for the latest medication news, new drug approvals and FDA alerts.

Drugs.com provides accurate and independent information on more than 24,000 prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines and natural products. This material is provided for educational purposes only and is not intended for medical advice, diagnosis or treatment.

Data sources include Micromedex (updated 7 Apr 2025), Cerner Multum™ (updated 13 Apr 2025), ASHP (updated 10 Apr 2025) and others.



Copyright © 2000-2025 Drugs.com. All rights reserved.