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2. Divigel

# Divigel

**Generic name:** [estradiol topical \(for use on skin\)](#) [ *ess-tra-DYE-ol-TOP-ik-al* ]

**Drug class:** [Estrogens](#)

Medically reviewed by [Philip Thornton, DipPharm](#). Last updated on Aug 23, 2023.

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## What is Divigel?

Divigel is a clear, colorless gel, which is odorless when dry. Estradiol is a form of estrogen, a female sex hormone that regulates many processes in the body.

Divigel is used to treat certain symptoms of [menopause](#) such as hot flashes, and vaginal dryness, burning, and irritation.

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

## Warnings

**Do not use Divigel if you are pregnant.**

Estradiol may increase your risk of developing a condition that may lead to uterine cancer. **Report any unusual vaginal bleeding right away.**

**Using Divigel can increase your risk of blood clots, stroke, heart attack, or cancer of the breast, uterus, or ovaries.** Estradiol should not be used to prevent heart disease, stroke, or dementia.

**Estradiol topical is absorbed through the skin and can cause side effects in a child who comes into contact with the skin where you have applied Divigel.**

## Before using this medicine

You should not use Divigel if you have:

- abnormal vaginal bleeding that has not been checked by a doctor;
- any type of breast, uterine, or hormone-dependent cancer;
- a history of heart attack, stroke, or blood clot (especially in your lung or your lower body);
- liver disease;
- a bleeding or blood-clotting disorder;

- if you are pregnant or may become pregnant; or
- if you have ever had an allergic reaction to estradiol topical.

Estradiol **will not** prevent heart disease, heart attack, stroke, breast cancer, or dementia, and may actually increase your risk of developing these conditions. Estradiol may also increase your risk of uterine or ovarian cancer. Talk with your doctor about your individual risks.

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

- unusual vaginal bleeding;
- heart disease;
- asthma;
- epilepsy or other seizure disorder;
- liver or kidney disease;
- hereditary angioedema;
- endometriosis;
- a thyroid disorder;
- lupus;
- high levels of calcium in your blood (hypercalcemia);
- migraines;
- gallbladder disease; or
- risk factors for coronary artery disease (such as diabetes, smoking, being overweight, having high blood pressure or high cholesterol, having a family history of coronary artery disease, being older than 40, or if you have had a hysterectomy).

**Do not use Divigel if you are pregnant.** Use effective birth control to prevent pregnancy while you are using Divigel.

Estradiol can pass into breast milk and may harm a nursing baby. Divigel may also slow breast milk production. Do not use if you are breastfeeding a baby.

 [Divigel pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

## How should I use Divigel?

Use Divigel exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Follow all directions on your prescription label. Do not use this medicine in larger or smaller amounts or for longer than recommended.

Estradiol may increase your risk of developing a condition that may lead to uterine cancer. Your doctor may prescribe a progestin to take while you are using estradiol, to help lower this risk. **Report any unusual vaginal bleeding right away.**

Read all patient information, medication guides, and instruction sheets provided to you. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions.

- Apply Divigel only to clean, dry, unbroken skin. Do not apply to skin that is red or irritated.

- Divigel should be applied once daily on the skin of either the right or left upper thigh. The application surface area should be about 5 by 7 inches (approximately the size of two palm prints). Use the gel at the same time each day.
- The entire contents of a unit dose packet should be applied each day. To avoid potential skin irritation, Divigel should be applied to the right or left upper thigh on alternating days.
- Divigel should not be applied on the face, breasts, or irritated skin or in or around the vagina. Contact of the gel with eyes should be avoided.
- After application, the gel should be allowed to dry before dressing. The application site should not be washed within 1 hour after applying Divigel.

Divigel contains alcohol. Alcohol based gels are flammable. Avoid fire, flame or smoking until the gel has dried.

Wash your hands with soap and water after applying the gel or emulsion. Avoid allowing other people to get Divigel on their skin. If this happens, wash the area thoroughly with soap and water.

Children should avoid coming into contact with skin areas where you have applied Divigel. **Topical estradiol is absorbed through the skin and can cause premature puberty in a child who comes into contact with this medicine or with skin where Divigel was applied.** Cover treated areas with clothing to protect others from coming into contact with the skin where you apply this medicine.

Your doctor should check your progress on a regular basis (every 3 to 6 months) to determine whether you should continue this treatment. Self-examine your breasts for lumps on a monthly basis, and have regular mammograms while using estradiol.

If you need surgery or medical tests or if you will be on bed rest, you may need to stop using this medicine for a short time. Any doctor or surgeon who treats you should know that you are using estradiol.

Store Divigel at room temperature away from moisture and heat.

 [Detailed Divigel dosage information](#)

## What happens if I miss a dose?

Use the missed dose as soon as you remember. If you are more than 12 hours late, skip the missed dose. Do not use extra medicine to make up the missed dose.

## What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222. Overdose symptoms may include nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, breast tenderness, drowsiness, and vaginal bleeding.

## What should I avoid while using Divigel?

Avoid getting this medicine in your eyes. If this does happen, rinse with water.

Wait at least 25 minutes after applying Divigel before you apply sunscreen to the same skin area.

Grapefruit and grapefruit juice may interact with estradiol and lead to potentially dangerous effects. Discuss the use of grapefruit products with your doctor.

## Divigel side effects

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

Stop using Divigel and call your doctor at once if you have:

- **heart attack symptoms** - chest pain or pressure, pain spreading to your jaw or shoulder, nausea, sweating;
- **signs of a blood clot** - sudden numbness or weakness, sudden vision loss, slurred speech, stabbing chest pain, coughing up blood, pain or warmth in one or both legs;
- swelling or tenderness in your stomach, severe stomach pain spreading to your back, nausea and vomiting;
- jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes);
- memory problems, confusion, unusual behavior;
- unusual vaginal bleeding, pelvic pain;
- a lump in your breast; or
- **high calcium levels** - confusion, tiredness, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, constipation, increased thirst or urination, weight loss.

**Topical estradiol is absorbed through the skin of a child who comes into contact with this medicine.** Call your doctor if a child who has close contact with you develops swollen nipples or enlarged breasts.

Common Divigel side effects may include:

- breast pain;
- headache;
- vaginal itching or discharge, changes in your menstrual periods, light vaginal bleeding or spotting;
- thinning scalp hair; or
- nausea, vomiting, bloating, stomach cramps.

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.

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

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## What other drugs will affect Divigel?

Other drugs may interact with estradiol topical, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal products. Tell each of your health care providers about all medicines you use now and any medicine you start or stop using.

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

## Does Divigel interact with my other drugs?

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

Divigel

+

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# Related treatment guides

- [Postmenopausal Symptoms](#)

# Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use Divigel 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	Prescription only
Pregnancy & Lactation	
	Risk data available
CSA Schedule*	
N/A	Not a controlled drug
Approval History	
	Drug history at FDA

# User Reviews & Ratings

7.0 / 10

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