

Home

Hydrocortisone/neomycin/polymyxin b

Hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic

Generic name: hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic [HYE-droe-KOR-ti-sone, NEE-oh-MYE-sin, POL-ee-MIX-in-B]

Brand names: Cortisporin Otic, Drotic, Masporin Otic, Cortomycin, Otocort Sterile Solution, ... show all 16 brands

Dosage forms: otic solution (1%-0.35%-10000 units/mL), otic suspension (1%-0.35%-10000 units/mL)

Drug class: Otic steroids with anti-infectives



Medically reviewed by Drugs.com on Aug 14, 2023. Written by Cerner Multum.

Uses Side effects Warnings Before taking Dosage Interactions

What is hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic?

Hydrocortisone is a steroid. It reduces the actions of chemicals in the body that cause inflammation.

Neomycin and polymyxin B are antibiotics that fight bacteria.

Hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic (for the ears) is a combination medicine used to treat outer ear infections caused by bacteria.

This medicine is not for use in treating an inner ear infection.

Hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic side effects

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

This medicine may cause serious side effects. Stop using this medicine and call your doctor at once if you have:

- severe burning or other irritation after using the ear drops;
- · hearing loss; or
- skin rash, redness, swelling, itching, dryness, scaling, or other irritation in or around the ear.

Common side effects of hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic may include:

• mild itching after using the ear drops.

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.

Related/similar drugs

Augmentin

Augmentin is a prescription antibiotic combining amoxicillin and clavulanate to treat bacterial ...

Reviews & ratings

5.4 / 10

447 Reviews

View more

FEATURED

Ozempic

Learn about Ozempic (semaglutide) for type 2 diabetes treatment, weight management, cardiovascular ...

Reviews & ratings

6.6 / 10

1,504 Reviews

View more

Amoxicillin/clavulanate

Amoxicillin and clavulanate potassium is a combination antibiotic used to treat bacterial ...

Reviews & ratings

5.3 / 10

910 Reviews

View more

Cephalexin

Cephalexin is a cephalosporin antibiotic used to treat bacterial infections like respiratory, skin ...

Reviews & ratings

6.4 / 10

509 Reviews

View more

Bactrim

Bactrim (sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim) is an antibiotic used to treat ear infections, urinary ...

Reviews & ratings

5.4 / 10

616 Reviews

View more

Keflex

Keflex (cephalexin) is used to treat infections caused by bacteria, including respiratory ...

Reviews & ratings

7.3 / 10

91 Reviews

View more

Zithromax

Zithromax (azithromycin) treats infections caused by bacteria, such as respiratory infections, skin ...

Reviews & ratings

7.1 / 10

127 Reviews

View more

Warnings

You should not use hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic if you have a hole in your ear drum (ruptured ear drum), or an ear infection caused by chickenpox, or herpes infection.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use this medicine if you are allergic to hydrocortisone, neomycin, or polymyxin B, or if you have:

• a ruptured ear drum; or

• an ear infection caused by chickenpox, or herpes infection (simplex or zoster).

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

- · chickenpox or small pox;
- · any ear infection that causes blistering;
- asthma or sulfite allergy; or
- if you are allergic to an antibiotic similar to neomycin, such as kanamycin, paromomycin, streptomycin, or gentamicin.

FDA pregnancy category C. It is not known whether hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic will harm an unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant while using this medicine.

Hydrocortisone can pass into breast milk and may harm a nursing baby. Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding a baby.

Do not use this medicine in a child younger than 2 years old.

How should I use hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic?

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

Before using this medication, clean and dry your ear canal with sterile cotton.

Shake the ear drops well just before each use.

To use the ear drops:

- Lie down or tilt your head with your ear facing upward. Open the ear canal by gently pulling your ear back, or pulling downward on the earlobe when giving this medicine to a child.
- Hold the dropper upside down over your ear and drop the correct number of drops into the ear.
- Stay lying down or with your head tilted for at least 5 minutes. You may use a small piece of cotton to plug the ear and keep the medicine from draining out.
- Do not touch the dropper tip or place it directly in your ear. It may become contaminated. Wipe the tip with a clean tissue but do not wash with water or soap.

As an alternative to dropping the medicine into your ear, you may insert a small piece of cotton into the ear canal and then drop the medicine directly onto the cotton to soak it. Leave the cotton in your ear for at least 24 hours, and keep it moist by adding a few drops of the medicine to the cotton every 4 hours. Replace the cotton at least every 24 hours. **Follow your doctor's instructions about the use of cotton with this medication.**

Call your doctor if your symptoms do not improve, or if they get worse while using hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic.

Use this medicine for the full prescribed length of time. Your symptoms may improve before the infection is completely cleared. Skipping doses may also increase your risk of further infection that is resistant to antibiotics.

Do not use hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic for longer than 10 days in a row unless your doctor tells you

to. Long-term use of neomycin may cause damage to your hearing.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat.

Hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic dosing information

Usual Adult Dose for Otitis Externa:

4 drops instilled into the affected ear 3 or 4 times per day

Comments:

- -Therapy with this product should be limited to 10 consecutive days.
- -The external auditory canal should be thoroughly cleansed and dried with a sterile cotton applicator.

Use: Treatment of superficial bacterial infections of the external auditory canal caused by organisms susceptible to the action of the antibiotics.

Usual Pediatric Dose for Otitis Externa:

- 2 years or older:
- 3 drops instilled into the affected ear 3 or 4 times per day

Comments:

- -Therapy with this product should be limited to 10 consecutive days.
- -The external auditory canal should be thoroughly cleansed and dried with a sterile cotton applicator.

Use: Treatment of superficial bacterial infections of the external auditory canal caused by organisms susceptible to the action of the antibiotics.

1 Detailed Hydrocortisone / neomycin / polymyxin b otic dosage information

What happens if I miss a dose?

Use the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to use the medicine and skip the missed dose. **Do not** use extra medicine to make up the missed dose.

What happens if I overdose?

An overdose of hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic 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 this medicine?

This medicine is for use only in the ears. Avoid getting the medicine in your eyes, mouth, and nose, or on your skin. Rinse with water if this medicine gets in or on these areas.

What other drugs will affect hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B

otic?

It is not likely that other drugs you take orally or inject will have an effect on hydrocortisone, neomycin, and polymyxin B otic used in the ears. 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.

Hydrocortisone / neomycin / polymyxin b otic drug interactions (more detail)

Does hydrocortisone/neomycin/polymyxin b otic interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our Drug Interaction Checker.

hydrocortisone/neomycin/polymyxin b otic	
+	
Enter a drug name	Add

More about hydrocortisone / neomycin / polymyxin b otic

- · Check interactions
- · Compare alternatives
- Pricing & coupons
- Reviews (59)
- Side effects
- Dosage information
- During pregnancy
- · Drug class: otic steroids with anti-infectives
- En español

Patient resources

- Neomycin, polymyxin b, and hydrocortisone (Otic) advanced reading
- Neomycin, Polymyxin B, and Hydrocortisone Otic Solution
- Neomycin, Polymyxin B, and Hydrocortisone Otic Suspension

Other brands

Cortisporin Otic, Pediotic, Casporyn HC, Cortomycin, ... +2 more

Professional resources

- Neomycin, Polymyxin, Hydrocortisone Ear Drops prescribing information
- Neomycin, Polymyxin B Sulfates and Hydrocortisone (FDA)

Other brands

Cortisporin Otic, Casporyn HC

Related treatment guides

- Middle Ear Infections
- Otitis Externa

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: 4.01.

Antibiotics 101

List of Common Antibiotics & Types

Antibiotics and Alcohol

Probiotics and Antibiotics

Antibiotics for Strep Throat

Antibiotics for a Tooth Infection

Antibiotics for UTI's

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 WADA Class Anti-Doping Classification

User Reviews & Ratings

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.

 \times