

- c. Product-specific cautions (or additional labelling requirements) 'For external use only' will need to be added to the label as the product is a paste for external use.
- d. Directions to patient – interpretation of Latin abbreviations where necessary 'Apply as directed.'
- e. Recommended *British National Formulary* cautions when suitable
The *British National Formulary* (51st edn, p 584) recommends the following cautions:
Label 28 – 'To be spread thinly...'
- f. Discard date
The product is a paste and so will attract a 3-month discard date.
- g. Sample label (you can assume that the name and address of the pharmacy and the words 'Keep out of the reach of children' are pre-printed on the label):

Dithranol Paste BP 0.1%	40 g
To be spread thinly as directed.	
For external use only	
Do not use after (3 months)	
Miss Amy Smith	Date of dispensing

7. Advice to patient

The patient would be advised to apply the paste thinly as directed. In addition, the discard date and the fact that the product is for external use only would be highlighted to the patient. If further direction for use is requested, the patient could be advised to apply the paste once or twice a day as, although the concentration of Salicylic Acid BP is quite low when compared to preparations used in the treatment of warts and hard skin, it will act as a keratolytic and so a maximum application frequency of once or twice a day would be appropriate.

Self-assessment

Questions

1. You are asked to prepare 25 g of a 1 in 5 dilution of Hydrocortisone 1% Ointment BP in White Soft Paraffin BP. What quantity of Hydrocortisone 1% Ointment BP would be required (the 25 g includes an overage)?
 - a. 4 g
 - b. 4.166 g
 - c. 5 g
 - d. 5.166 g