



Efudex (Flourouracil 5% topical cream)

Efudex cream is a topical chemotherapy cream. It is used to treat chronic sun damage and superficial basal cell and squamous cell carcinoma skin cancers.

What can I expect from Efudex cream?

Results vary from person to person. You may experience redness, dryness, scaling, burning, crusting, stinging, pain, edema, and erosion. The skin you are treating will have photo sensitivity, so avoid sun exposure on the areas you are treating. Skin reactions may be of such intensity that patients may require rest periods from treatment. Treatment with Efudex cream can be resumed after the skin reaction has subsided. Talk to your doctor or health care provider if you have questions about your treatment or skin reactions. For best results with Efudex cream, follow your doctor's instructions closely.

How should I use Efudex Cream? (Follow the line with the box "checked")

- Apply a thin layer of Efudex cream to affected areas once in the evening for 4 weeks.
- Apply a thin layer of Efudex to affected areas twice per day for 4 weeks.

Use Efudex cream exactly as prescribed by your health care provider. Efudex cream is for skin use only. Do not take by mouth or use in or near your eyes, lips, or nostrils, unless directed by your doctor or health care provider. Talk with your doctor if you have any questions. Use Efudex cream only on the area of your body to be treated, as instructed by your health care provider. Do not use Efudex cream longer than prescribed. Using too much or using it too often or for too long can increase your chances for having a severe skin reaction or other side effect.

- Wash the area to be treated with mild soap and water. Allow the area to dry.
- Apply a thin layer of Efudex only to the affect area or areas to be treated. Do not use more Efudex than is needed to cover the treatment area.
- Do not get Efudex in your eyes
- Do not cover the treated area with a bandage.
- After applying Efudex, wash your hands well.
- Leave the cream on the affected area for about 8 hours. Then wash off. If you get Efudex in your mouth or in your eyes, rinse well with water right away.

When to Discontinue Treatment?

Discontinue applying the Efudex for 1-2 weeks to any areas that become too red, irritated, and crusted. A steroid may be applied for 1 week to the irritated areas. Vaseline or Aquaphor can also be applied throughout the day. When the area/areas improve after a 1 – 2 week break, resume using the Efudex cream and finish the 4 week total treatment.

Possible Steroid

- Hydrocortisone 2.5% ointment.
- Triamcinolone .025% ointment.

Apply to affected areas two times per day for 1 – 2 weeks if needed at the end of the treatment.

If you need to take a break from the Efudex during treatment, use the steroid two times per day for 1 – 2 weeks. Then start using the Efudex again.

Questions? Contact Center for Dermatology at 952.469.5033 and ask to speak with a Nurse.