

How does imiquimod cream work?

Imiquimod cream works from within by activating your body's own immune system to treat disease. Imiquimod cream helps your immune system clear certain skin cancer cells from the skin.

What can I expect from imiquimod cream?

Results vary from person to person. Most people experience redness, swelling, and formation of sores at or around the affected area during the course of treatment. Skin reactions may be of such intensity that patients may require rest periods from treatment. Treatment with imiquimod cream can be resumed after the skin reaction has subsided as determined by your doctor. Skin reactions generally decrease in intensity or resolve after imiquimod cream treatment. 6% of patients reported burning and 3% reported pain at the treatment area. Talk to your doctor or health care provider if you have questions about your treatment or skin reactions. For best results with imiquimod cream, follow your doctor's instructions closely.

Who should not use imiquimod Cream?

Imiquimod Cream has not been studied in children under 18 years of age for skin cancer. Children usually do not get skin cancer. Before using imiquimod cream, tell your health care provider about all your medical conditions including if you are: pregnant or plan on getting pregnant. It is not known if imiquimod cream can harm your unborn baby or if you are breast-feeding. It is not known if imiquimod cream passes into your milk and if it can harm your baby. Imiquimod cream administration is not recommended until the skin has completely healed from any previous drug or surgical treatment. Imiquimod cream has potential to worsen inflammatory skin conditions such as psoriasis at the application site.

How should I use imiquimod Cream?

Use imiquimod cream exactly as prescribed by your health care provider. Imiquimod cream is for skin use only. Do not take by mouth or use in or near your eyes, lips, or nostrils. Talk with your doctor if you have any questions. Use imiquimod cream only on the area of your body to be treated, as instructed by your health care provider. Sufficient cream should be applied to cover the treatment area, including some skin surrounding the skin cancer. The treatment area should measure about 1/3 inch (about the size of your fingertip) beyond the skin cancer. Do not use imiquimod 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. Talk to your doctor if imiquimod cream does not work for you.

How to apply imiquimod cream

Imiquimod should be applied just before your bedtime.

- Wash the area to be treated with mild soap and water. Allow the area to dry.
- Apply a thin layer of imiquimod only to the affected area or areas to be treated. Do not use more imiquimod than is needed to cover the treatment area.
- Do not get imiquimod in your eyes

- Do not cover the treated area with an airtight bandage.
- After applying imiquimod, wash your hands well.
- Leave the cream on the affected area for about 8 hours. Then wash off. If you get imiquimod in your mouth or in your eyes, rinse well with water right away.

What if I forget a dose?

Apply the missed dose of cream as soon as you remember and then continue on your regular scheduled.

What should I avoid while using imiquimod cream?

- Do not cover the treated site with bandages or other closed dressings. Cotton gauze dressings may be used.
- Do not apply imiquimod cream in or near the eyes, lips or nostrils.
- Do not use sunlamps or tanning beds, and avoid sunlight as much as possible during treatment with imiquimod cream. If you go outside during daylight, use sunscreen and wear protective clothing, including a hat.

What are the possible side effects of imiquimod cream?

- The most common side effect with imiquimod are skin reactions at the treatment site including redness
- Swelling
- A sore, blister, or ulcer
- Skin that becomes hard or thickened
- Changes in skin color that do not always go away
- Skin peeling
- Scabbing and crusting
- Itching burning

Your recommended weekly dosing schedule:

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Additional Physician Instructions
