

# PACKAGE LEAFLET

Information for the user



**Please read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine.**

Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you need more information or advice.

**In this leaflet:**

1. What Dermol 200 Shower Emollient is and what it is used for
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## 1. WHAT DERMOL 200 SHOWER EMOLLIENT IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

- Dermol 200 Shower Emollient is an antimicrobial and emollient (softening and moisturising) treatment for you to apply to your skin as part of your normal showering routine.
- It helps to treat and prevent dry and itchy (pruritic) skin conditions, especially eczema and dermatitis.
- **All age groups who normally shower** can use Dermol 200 Shower Emollient.
- There are two types of **active ingredient** in this product:
  - Benzalkonium chloride and chlorhexidine dihydrochloride are **antimicrobials**. These help to:
    - combat bacteria present on your skin that can make eczema worse
    - prevent infection caused by scratching itchy skin.
  - Liquid paraffin and isopropyl myristate are **emollients** which help to:
    - soften, moisturise and protect your skin by trapping moisture in the skin and restoring the normal protective function of the skin
    - prevent the skin-drying and irritant effects that can be caused by washing and bathing and by the soaps, foaming additives and fragrances used in ordinary skin cleansing products.
- This product can be used in addition to any other emollients or treatments your doctor or pharmacist may have given or prescribed for you to treat your dry skin condition.

## 2. BEFORE YOU USE DERMOL 200 SHOWER EMOLLIENT

**Do not use** this product if you are **allergic** (hypersensitive) to benzalkonium chloride, chlorhexidine dihydrochloride, liquid paraffin, isopropyl myristate, or any of the other ingredients of Dermol 200 Shower Emollient listed in Section 6.

### Warnings and precautions

As with any product, severe generalised allergic reactions (see Section 4) are possible. Very rare reports of such reactions in susceptible individuals, leading to a drop in blood pressure and even to unconsciousness, have been associated with products containing chlorhexidine. You must not use Dermol 200 Shower Emollient if you have had problems with chlorhexidine-containing products in the past.

Do not smoke or go near naked flames - risk of severe burns. Fabric (clothing, bedding, dressings etc) that has been in contact with this product burns more easily and is a serious fire hazard. Washing clothing and bedding may reduce product build-up but not totally remove it.

**Take care** when using this product:

- If using as a leave-on application, it is generally a good idea for patients with very sensitive skin to start any new treatment on a small test area first, in case any side effect occurs (see Section 4 below). This is especially important when treating the face or young children. Thereafter, treatments may be applied more generously, as required.
- Avoid getting it in the eyes, especially when using it on the face.
- It can make your shower tray (or bath surface) slippery, so be careful to avoid slipping over when getting into and out of your shower (eg by using a shower or bath mat).
- After use, clean out the shower tray with a suitable detergent to remove any remaining greasiness (wearing protective gloves to avoid irritating your hands).

### Using other medicines

This product is not known to affect, or to be affected by, other medicines.

### Pregnancy and breast-feeding

This product can be used during pregnancy and whilst breast-feeding. The ingredients have been in widespread use in this and similar preparations for many years, without reports of problems. However, safety trials have not been conducted.

### Dermol 200 Shower Emollient contains cetostearyl alcohol

Cetostearyl alcohol may cause local skin reactions (e.g. contact dermatitis).

If you have previously experienced local skin reactions (e.g. contact dermatitis) to any of the ingredients, please talk to your doctor before using this product.

## 3. HOW TO USE DERMOL 200 SHOWER EMOLLIENT

Use it only on the skin. For maximum benefit you should use this product on a regular basis and whenever you shower.

**The same instructions apply for all age groups who normally shower:-**

- To use the product, remove the hooked overcap and attach it to the base of the bottle for hanging in the shower.
- Holding the bottle upside down, gently squeeze the product into the palm of your hand.

### For use as a soap substitute

- Use Dermol 200 Shower Emollient to wash with instead of ordinary soap or shower gel. It will not foam or lather like ordinary cosmetic products.
- After washing or showering, **pat** the skin dry with a **soft** towel (avoid rubbing as this can make dry skin conditions worse).

**For use as a leave-on application** (eg after showering):

- Apply Dermal 200 Shower Emollient to the affected areas.
- Gently smooth into the skin.
- If necessary, allow time for any excess to soak in. Do not rub the skin vigorously.
- Reapply as often as required.
- If you are applying another treatment to the same areas of skin as Dermal 200 Shower Emollient, try to avoid mixing the two products. This can be achieved by applying the treatments alternately, leaving sufficient time to allow the previous application to soak in.

**If you forget to use Dermal 200 Shower Emollient**

Do not worry if you occasionally forget to use it, just carry on using the product as described the next time you require it.

**If the product gets into the eyes**

The product may cause irritation if it gets into the eyes. Rinse the eyes with plenty of water. If rinsing one eye, take care to avoid washing product into the other eye. If irritation persists, seek medical advice.

**4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS**

Like all medicines, Dermal 200 Shower Emollient can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

If you experience any of the following reactions **stop using** Dermal 200 Shower Emollient **and get urgent medical help**: swelling of the face, lips, tongue or throat; a sudden uncharacteristic red itchy skin rash (hives) away from the site of application; wheezing or breathing difficulty; feeling faint or dizzy; a strange metallic taste in the mouth; or collapse. You may be having a serious allergic reaction.

This product has been specially designed for use on dry or problem skin areas anywhere on the body. **Rarely**, Dermal 200 Shower Emollient can cause skin reactions on treated areas (involving redness, irritation and/or itching). These very rare skin reactions may become more significant where associated with excessive use as a leave-on application in areas of folded skin such as the groin or in the nappy area.

**Stop using** the shower emollient and **tell** your doctor or pharmacist:

- If your skin condition seems to look or feel worse.
- If any of the side effects become unacceptable, or you notice any other side effects not mentioned in this leaflet.

**If you swallow Dermal 200 Shower Emollient**

If you accidentally **swallow** the product and you then feel unwell, seek medical attention.

**Do not attempt to cause vomiting.**

**Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at: [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard). By reporting side effects you can provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

**5. HOW TO STORE DERMOL 200 SHOWER EMOLLIENT**

- Keep out of sight and reach of children.
- Do not use Dermal 200 Shower Emollient after the expiry date shown on the container or carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Do not store above 25°C.
- Replace the hooked overcap in the original position on the top of the bottle during transport.

**6. FURTHER INFORMATION**

**What Dermal 200 Shower Emollient contains:**

The **active ingredients** in this product are **benzalkonium chloride** (0.1% w/w), **chlorhexidine dihydrochloride** (0.1% w/w), **liquid paraffin** (2.5% w/w) and **isopropyl myristate** (2.5% w/w). The **other ingredients** are cetostearyl alcohol, macrogol cetostearyl ether (cetomacrogol 1000), phenoxyethanol and purified water.

**What Dermal 200 Shower Emollient looks like and contents of the pack**

- The product is a white, non-greasy lotion that contains no dye or fragrance.
- The bottle contains 200 ml of product. The bottle is fitted with a hooked overcap.

**The Marketing Authorisation holder is** Dermal Laboratories, Hitchin, Herts, SG4 7QR, UK.

**The Manufacturer is** Aeropak, Viking Road, Great Yarmouth, NR31 0NU, UK.

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**7. GENERAL ADVICE ON LOOKING AFTER DRY SKIN CONDITIONS**

- Emollients help soften, moisturise and protect the skin. They play a central role in the treatment and management of dry skin conditions. For maximum effect, they should be applied regularly and as often as needed.
- When bathing, try to use warm, not hot, water and avoid staying in the bath for long periods. This could make dry skin conditions worse.
- Try to avoid using normal soaps or shower products (even those labelled “moisturising”). This is because they tend to dry and irritate the skin. Avoid using products containing fragrances, as these can also cause skin problems. You should try to use a fragrance-free emollient “soap substitute” instead. This type of product will not foam or lather but will be better for your dry skin condition.
- **Breaking the itch-scratch cycle.**  
Some dry skin conditions like eczema and dermatitis are itchy, and can be quite sore. Although scratching relieves the itching for a short while, it further damages the skin. Badly scratched skin easily gets infected. This makes it itchier and the urge to scratch becomes even greater. It is better if scratching can be avoided by reducing the itching. The regular use of emollients or moisturisers can help with this.

To listen to or request a copy of this leaflet in Braille, large print or audio, please call free of charge: 0800 198 5000 (UK only).

Please be ready to give the following information: Dermal 200 Shower Emollient, 00173/0156.

This is a service provided by the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB).