

**Package Leaflet: Information for the User**  
**Bactroban 2% Cream**  
mupirocin calcium

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

**What is in this leaflet:**

- 1 What Bactroban is and what it is used for
- 2 What you need to know before you use Bactroban
- 3 How to use Bactroban
- 4 Possible side effects
- 5 How to store Bactroban
- 6 Contents of the pack and other information

**1 What Bactroban is and what it is used for**

Bactroban 2% Cream (called 'Bactroban' in this leaflet) contains a medicine called mupirocin calcium. Bactroban is an antibiotic cream.

It is used:

- to treat infections on your skin in small cuts, lacerations, wounds or on scraped skin, by killing bacteria causing infections on your skin called '*Staphylococcus aureus*' and '*Streptococcus pyogenes*'.

Treatment should not exceed 10 days.

You must talk to a doctor if you do not feel better or if you feel worse during treatment.

**2 What you need to know before you use Bactroban**

**Do not use Bactroban:**

- if you are allergic (hypersensitive) to mupirocin calcium, mupirocin or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6)
- if the patient is less than 1 year old.

If you are not sure if this applies to you, do not use this medicine. Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before using Bactroban.

**Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before using Bactroban.

Bactroban can cause severe skin reactions or allergies. See '**Conditions to look out for**' in section 4.

Thrush (a yeast infection) may develop if Bactroban is used for a long time. On the skin this looks like bright red spots which may be very itchy. On occasion small pustules may be present in the middle. If this occurs, tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

Keep the cream away from your eyes.

- If the cream gets into your eyes accidentally, wash them thoroughly with water.

### **Other medicines and Bactroban**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are using, have recently used, or might use any other medicines.

### **Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before using this medicine. If a cracked nipple is being treated, the cream must be thoroughly washed off prior to breast-feeding.

### **Bactroban contains cetyl alcohol, stearyl alcohol and benzyl alcohol.**

Cetyl alcohol and stearyl alcohol may cause local skin reactions (e.g. contact dermatitis) where you apply the cream.

Benzyl alcohol may cause mild local irritation. See also section 4.

## **3 How to use Bactroban**

Always use this medicine exactly as described in this leaflet or as your doctor, pharmacist or nurse has told you. Check with your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you are not sure.

### **Using this medicine**

Do not mix Bactroban with any other external cream or ointment medicines on the infected area of your skin as this may reduce the effectiveness of Bactroban.

You usually apply Bactroban on your skin up to 3 times a day.

1. Wash and dry your hands.
2. Place a small amount of Bactroban on a clean cotton wool pad or gauze swab.
3. Apply the cream to the infected area of your skin.
4. You can cover the treated area with a plaster or other suitable dressing, unless your doctor has told you to leave it uncovered.
5. Replace the cap on the tube and wash your hands.

### **How long should you use Bactroban for?**

Use Bactroban for as long as your doctor has told you. If you are not sure, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. The bacteria are normally cleared from your skin within 10 days of starting treatment. Do not use for more than 10 days. Throw away any cream that is left over.

If your skin condition does not improve within 3 to 5 days, see your doctor.

### **If you swallow any or use more Bactroban than you should**

- If you use more Bactroban than you should, speak to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse for advice.
- If you swallow any of the cream, contact your doctor immediately and indicate what and how much you have swallowed.

### **If you forget to use Bactroban**

- If you forget to apply Bactroban, apply it as soon as you remember.
- If your next dose is due within an hour, skip the missed dose.
- Do not use a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

### **If you stop using Bactroban**

If you stop using Bactroban too early, not all the bacteria may have been killed or they may continue to grow.

Ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse when to stop using the cream.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

## **4 Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

### Conditions to look out for

Severe skin reactions or allergies

These are very rare in people using Bactroban. Signs include:

- raised and itchy rash
- swelling, sometimes of the face or mouth, causing difficulty in breathing
- collapse or loss of consciousness

→ **Contact a doctor immediately** if you get any of these symptoms. Stop using Bactroban

→ If you develop a severe skin reaction or an allergy:

- wipe off the cream
- stop using it and
- tell your doctor as soon as possible.

On rare occasions, medicines like Bactroban can cause inflammation of the colon (large intestine), causing diarrhoea, usually with blood and mucus, stomach pain, fever (*pseudomembranous colitis*).

→ **Tell your doctor as soon as possible** if you get any of these symptoms.

The following side effects may happen with this medicine:

**Common** (may affect up to one in 10 people)

- Itching, redness, burning, rash, swelling, pain on your skin where Bactroban is applied.

Dryness and redness of the skin can also occur on other parts of your body.

### 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 help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## 5 How to store Bactroban

- Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not store above 25°C. Do not freeze.
- Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the tube. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Do not use this medicine if it looks different to normal.
- Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help to protect the environment.

## 6 Contents of the pack and other information

### What Bactroban contains

- Each gram of cream contains 21.5 mg mupirocin calcium equivalent to 20 mg mupirocin.
- The other ingredients are xanthan gum, liquid paraffin, cetomacrogol 1000, stearyl alcohol, cetyl alcohol, phenoxyethanol, benzyl alcohol and purified water. See also section 2.

### What Bactroban looks like and contents of the pack

- Bactroban is a smooth white cream.

- Bactroban is available in a 15 g tube. Each tube comes in a carton.

### Marketing authorisation holder and manufacturer

Marketing Authorisation Holder  
Beecham Group plc  
79 New Oxford Street  
London  
WC1A 1DG  
United Kingdom

Manufacturer  
Glaxo Wellcome Operations  
Harmire Road  
Barnard Castle  
Co Durham DL12 8DT

GlaxoSmithKline Trading Services Limited  
12 Riverwalk  
Citywest Business Campus  
Dublin 24  
Ireland

### Other formats:

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:

**Product name**                      **Bactroban 2% Cream**

Reference number                      00038/0372

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

This leaflet was last revised in **November 2024**

Trade marks are owned by or licensed to the GSK group of companies

© 2024 GSK group of companies or its licensor