



Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust: Information for Families

Dihydrotestosterone (Andractim®) 2.5% gel for topical application

This information sheet should be read in conjunction with any information provided by the manufacturer.

This information sheet explains what andractim 2.5% gel is, how it is used and some of the possible side effects. Each person reacts differently to medicines, so your child will not necessarily suffer every side effect mentioned. If you have any questions or concerns, please ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist or telephone one of the contact numbers on this information sheet.

What is dihydrotestosterone?

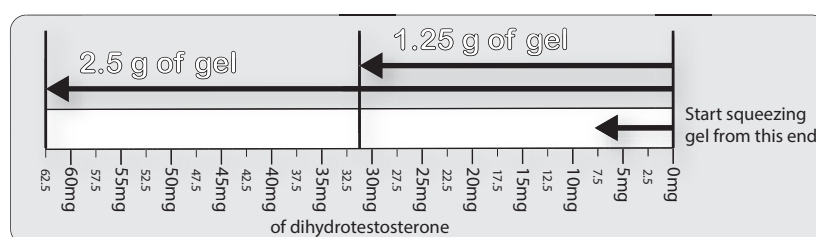
Dihydrotestosterone is a synthetic version of a hormone called testosterone. It is available as a 2.5% gel under the brand name Andractim®, which is imported from abroad. It is used for children with hormone deficiencies. It works by correcting the hormone deficiency, either in a particular part of the body or affecting the body as a whole

How is it used?

Dihydrotestosterone 2.5% gel is for external use only. It should be applied over the required area of skin after washing. The gel should be left to dry for five minutes or so before putting on clothes.

1. Put on a pair of gloves
2. Gently squeeze the gel onto the up to the mark on the ruler illustrated below – as instructed on the dispensing label.
3. Spread over the required area evenly
4. Leave for five minutes
5. Wipe the information sheet with a damp piece of kitchen paper ready for the next dose.
Remove the gloves and wash them in warm soapy water ready for the next dose.

Note: Dihydrotestosterone 2.5% gel should not be applied to any broken areas of skin.



Who should not use Dihydrotestosterone 2.5% gel?

People who are hypersensitive to Dihydrotestosterone or its ingredients (Carbomer 934, Alcohol 95%) should discuss using this medicine with their doctor.

What are the side effects?

The following side effects are rare and are usually due to the dose of androgen being too high, so will disappear when the dosage is reduced.

- Mood swings and irritability
- Excessive energy or signs of being hyperactive
- Weight gain
- Extra hair growth
- Hoarseness
- Oily skin
- Acne

Dihydrotestosterone 2.5% gel and other medicines

Dihydrotestosterone is applied externally so it should not react with any other medicines.

Important information

- As this is a specialist treatment, GOSH or your local hospital will supply your child's medicine.
- Keep medicines in a safe place where children cannot reach them.
- Keep the gel at room temperature, away from bright light or direct sunlight and away from heat. Do not store in the fridge.
- If the doctor decides that your child should stop using dihydrotestosterone, return any remaining gel to your pharmacist. Do not throw away.

Useful numbers

GOSH switchboard: 020 7405 9200

Endocrinology Clinical Nurse Specialists: 020 7813 8214

Pharmacy medicines information: 020 7829 8608 from Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm