

# **PIP OFF GEL**

## **PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER**

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### **1. WHAT PIP OFF IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR**

Pip off is used to treat mild to moderate acne (spots). Pip off contains an antibiotic clindamycin that reduces the number of bacteria and stops the skin pores becoming blocked and new spots forming. Pip off may also help to reduce the redness of the spots you already have. It will take some time once you have started using Pip off before you see your acne improving.

What is acne?

Acne is an extremely common skin condition most common in adolescence, but not restricted to this stage of life. During adolescence, glands in the skin produce extra grease in response to normal amounts of sex hormones in the body, and this can cause blocked pores, resulting in blackheads. When this happens the pores are invaded by bacteria. The chemicals produced by these bacteria go into deeper layers of the skin and produce red spots filled with pus.

### **2. BEFORE YOU USE PIP OFF**

Do not use Pip off Gel

- If you are allergic (hypersensitive) to the active substance clindamycin phosphate or any of the other ingredients
- If you are allergic (hypersensitive) to lincomycin another type of antibiotic. Pip off should not be used by children under the age of 12 years.

Take special care with Pip off

- Before you use Pip off consult your doctor if you suffer from a condition known as inflammatory bowel disease or you have had diarrhoea when you have taken antibiotics.

If you do get diarrhoea, when using Pip off, you must stop using it straight away and tell your doctor immediately. Taking other medicines Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or recently taken or used any other medicines, including medicines you have bought without a prescription.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking or using any medicine. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, think you might be pregnant, or trying to become pregnant before using Pip off. Clindamycin can pass into breast milk, even if you only use it on your skin, so you should not breast feed while using Pip off.

### **3. HOW TO USE PIP OFF**

Pip off must not be taken by mouth. It is for use on the skin only. Always use Pip off as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

- You should use Pip off once a day. Wash as normal, rinse well and pat your skin dry. Apply a small amount of gel in a thin layer to the whole of the area where you usually get the spots.
- It is important to replace the cap after you have used Pip off.

#### **Do not**

- apply Pip off to areas where you do not usually get spots.
- use Pip off in an attempt to stop you getting acne, it does not work that way.
- just dab Pip off onto individual spots.
- apply a thick layer of Pip off in any particular area as this will not get rid of the spots any quicker. Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine.
- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

- This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.
- If any of the side effects get serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

Take care to avoid your eyes, inside your nose or mouth when applying Pip off. If you accidentally put gel on these areas, wash them straight away with plenty of water.

Successful treatment of acne can take several months. You may not see any effect of treatment for several weeks. After that you should note a gradual but definite improvement but maximum benefit may take several months. You may need to use more than one tube of Pip off during each course of treatment.

Use Pip off for as long as your doctor tells you. Try not to pick or squeeze spots as this can make your acne worse and even lead to scarring.

If you use more Pip off than you should :

You do not need to worry, just wash your treated skin with plenty of water.

Contact your doctor or your local hospital if you are worried.

If you forget to use Pip off Use it as soon as you remember and then continue to use as your doctor has told you.

Do not apply a double dose to make up for a forgotten application.

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

#### **4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS**

Like all medicines, Pip off can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Common (affecting fewer than 1 in 10 but more than 1 in 100)

- Dry skin
- Redness of the skin
- Skin burning
- Irritation around eyes
- Worsening of acne

- Itchy skin Uncommon (affecting fewer than 1 in 100 but more than 1 in 1,000)
- Painful skin
- Scaly rash

You can relieve these unwanted effects by using an oil free moisturiser on the affected area.

When clindamycin (the active ingredient in Pip off) is given by mouth or injection it has been known to cause inflammation of the bowel, leading to diarrhoea with blood and mucus. This reaction is extremely rare when clindamycin is applied on the skin. However, if you get diarrhoea with blood and mucus, stop using Pip off and contact your doctor.

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.

## **5. HOW TO STORE PIP OFF**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children. Pip off does not require any special storage conditions. Do not use Pip off after the expiry date which is stated on the tube and box after the abbreviation used for expiry date. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month. Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

## **6. FURTHER INFORMATION**

### **What Pip off contains**

The name of your medicine is Pip off 1% Gel. Pip off gel contains the active ingredient Clindamycin Phosphate. Each tube of gel contains 1.2% clindamycin phosphate equivalent to 1% clindamycin.

Pip off also contains Sodium Methyl Paraben, Sodium Propyl Paraben, Titanium Dioxide, Red Iron Oxide, Carbopol 940, Propylene Glycol, Isopropyl Alcohol, Triethanolamine, Perfume English Lavender, Purified water

### **What Pip off looks like and contents of the pack**

Pip off is a light pink coloured smooth gel. Pip off is available in 25 gm laminate tubes with a seal covering the opening and a HDPE cap.

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