

# **Noscab<sup>®</sup>**

(Permethrin Cream)

## **Description**

Noscab cream is a preparation of 5% (w/w) Permethrin INN. Permethrin is a photo stable synthetic pyrethroid that possesses a broad spectrum of insecticidal activity and is generally rated as the safest insecticide because of its low primary toxicity.

Along with the pediculicidal activity, Permethrin has ovicidal and scabicial activity. The insect rapidly absorbs Permethrin via mouth, respiratory tract or the intact cuticle. Although the primary target tissue is the nervous system, insects are killed by a complex series of reactions in various organs such as metabolic exhaustion and paralysis of the nervous system. Permethrin induces electrochemical abnormalities across the membranes of excitable cells, leading to sensory hyperexcitability in coordination and prostration.

## **Indications**

Noscab is indicated for the treatment of scabies.

## **Dosage and Administration**

- ◆ Adults and children (over 12 years)- A full tube
- ◆ Children aged 6-12 years : up to half of a tube
- ◆ Children aged 1-5 years : up to one fourth of a tube
- ◆ Children aged 2 months to 1 year : up to one eighth of a tube

Patients of > 2 months of age can use Noscab cream. Cream should be applied to clean, dry and cool skin. If the body is hot due to warm bath or any other reason, skin should be allowed to cool down. It should be applied to the whole body excluding head. The whole body should be washed thoroughly 8-12 hours after treatment. Adults and children above 12 years will use a full tube as a single dose. If necessary maximum two tubes can be used as a single dose.

The cream should not be applied to the vicinity of mouth and areas close to the eyes.

## **Contraindication**

Permethrin is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to the product, its components, other pyrethroids or pyrethrins.

## **Precautions**

Noscab is not an eye irritant, but the cream itself may cause marked irritation. Nursing staff who routinely apply Noscab, may wear gloves to avoid any possible irritation to the hands.

## **Drug Interactions**

The treatment of eczematous like reactions with corticosteroids should be withheld prior to treatment with Permethrin, as there is a risk of exacerbating the scabies infestation by reducing the immune response to the mite.

## **Side Effects**

In scabies patients, skin discomfort, usually described as burning, stinging or tingling occurs in a few individuals soon after the cream is applied. Other transient effects are erythema, numbness, rash and pruritus.

## **Use in Special Populations**

*Pregnancy* : There are limited data on the use of Permethrin in pregnancy which provide no indication of any risk to the foetus. Furthermore, the amount of Permethrin absorbed systemically following a whole body application is extremely low. The negative mutagenicity tests and the very low mammalian toxicity would suggest that any risk to the foetus following treatment with Permethrin is minimal.

*Lactation* : Consideration should be given to discontinuing nursing temporarily or to withholding the drug while the mother is nursing, although drug levels in breast milk following topical application are likely to be very low.

## **Commercial Pack**

Noscab® Cream : Each pack has a tube containing 25 g of Noscab cream. Each gram contains Permethrin INN 50 mg.