

**Chloramphenicol 1.0% w/w**Antibiotic Eye Ointment  
Chloramphenicol

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you. This medicine is available without a prescription. However, you still need to use it carefully to get the best results from it.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- Ask your pharmacist if you need more information or advice.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.
- You must talk to a doctor if you do not feel better or if you feel worse.

**What is in this leaflet:**

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

**1. What Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment is and what it is used for**

Chloramphenicol belongs to a group of medicines called antibiotics. Antibiotics are used for infections caused by bacteria. Chloramphenicol eye ointment is for simple eye infections called "acute bacterial conjunctivitis". This is sometimes known as "red eye" because the white part of the affected eye(s) will be red and/or the eyelid(s) will be red or swollen. There may also be a sticky discharge which can make the eye difficult to open in the morning, and the eye may feel 'gritty' or 'irritated'.

**2. What you need to now before you use Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment****Do not use the ointment if:**

- You are allergic to Chloramphenicol or any of the other ingredients of this medicine listed in section 6.
- You or a member of your family has had problems with their blood or bone marrow. These problems can include a severe reduction in red blood cells or lower than normal blood count.

**Warnings and precautions****Tell your doctor if:**

- Your eye is painful (rather than just feeling sore or gritty) or you have pain or swelling around the eye or face.
- Your sight is affected by loss of vision,

reduced or blurred vision or you see halos around lights.

- It is too painful to open your eyes properly.
- Your pupil (the black circle in the centre of your eye) looks different. It may be torn, not round, very big or does not change size in the light.
- Your eye looks cloudy.
- You have had an eye infection in the past month.
- You have glaucoma (high pressure inside your eye).
- You have "dry eye syndrome".
- You have injured your eye.
- You think there may be something in your eye or you have splashed something in your eye.
- You are already using other eye drops or eye ointment.
- You have had eye surgery or laser treatment in the last 6 months.

**If you wear contact lenses, seek advice either from your contact lens practitioner (optician, optometrist) or doctor before you use this product.**

- You should not wear your contact lenses during the course of treatment.
- If you wear soft contact lenses do not start wearing them for at least 24 hours after you have finished the eye ointment.

**Other medicines and Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines, especially:

- Other eye ointments or eye drops
- Medicines which may affect your bone marrow

**Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

Chloramphenicol should not be used during pregnancy and breast-feeding unless considered essential by your doctor, as the effects are unknown.

If you are a 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.

**Driving and using machines**

The ointment may cause blurred vision due to smearing or stinging.

- This will only happen for a short period after it is put in your eye.
- If this happens do not drive or use machinery until you can see clearly.

**3. How to use Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment**

Chloramphenicol eye ointment is used by placing a small amount (about 1cm) in the space between the lower eyelid and the eye. Always follow your pharmacist's instructions.

- Do not take it by mouth.

*Continued overleaf*

**Adults and children aged 2 years and over:**

A course of treatment lasts 5 days:

- If the eye ointment is being used alone, squeeze a thin line of ointment inside the lower eyelid of each affected eye 3 to 4 times a day. This means that you should use it about every 4 – 6 hours.
- If you are using Chloramphenicol eye drops during the day and the eye ointment at night – apply the ointment at night, before going to bed.

**When using the ointment**

- Wash your hands before and after using the ointment
- Sit or stand in front of a mirror
- Take off the tube cap
- Tilt the head gently backwards
- Gently pull lower eyelid down
- Gently squeezing the tube, put about 1cm of ointment into the space between the lower eyelid and the eye
- Let go of the eyelid and blink a few times. This will help spread the ointment over the eye
- Try not to touch the eye, eyelashes, or anything else with the tip of the tube
- Repeat for the other eye, if affected
- Replace the cap securely after use



It is important to complete the course of treatment even if your eyes feel better.

**Talk to your doctor immediately if:**

- **Your eyes get worse at any time**
- **There is no improvement within 2 days**

Do not repeat the course of treatment without consulting your doctor or pharmacist.

**If you forget to take Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment**

If you miss a dose, use the ointment as directed above and then continue your normal course of treatment.

Do not share your eye ointment with anyone else.

**If you use more Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment than you should**

If the contents of this tube are swallowed, contact your doctor straight away or go to your nearest hospital casualty department. Take with you the tube and container so that the medicine can be identified.

**4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, Chloramphenicol Eye Ointment can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Stop using your medicine and tell **your doctor or pharmacist immediately if you experience the following side effects:**

- Wheeziness (shortness of breath), fever, swelling of your face, lips or tongue, itching or rash with swelling of skin (the rash could be puffy (swollen) or blotchy, or look like little blisters).
- A sore throat, bruising or being unable to overcome an infection. On very rare occasions, patients using chloramphenicol have had changes in their blood cells causing severe tiredness or easy bruising

**Possible side effects include:**

- burning
- itching
- mild stinging
- mild inflammation of the skin (dermatitis).
- irritation

**Rare side effects include:**

- bone marrow depression (a condition where the marrow is unable to produce blood cells)
- a reduced production and death of red blood cells (anaemia)

**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 Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment after the expiry date printed on the crimp seal of the tube. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month. Once the tube is open use within 28 days.

You are advised to dispose of the tube once you have finished your 5 day course of treatment.

This medicine needs to be stored below 25°C.

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. The measures will help to protect the environment.

**6. Contents of the pack and other information****What Chloramphenicol Antibiotic Eye Ointment contains**

The name of this medicine is Chloramphenicol 1.0% w/w Antibiotic Eye Ointment.

This medicine contains the active ingredient Chloramphenicol 1.0 w/w. Other ingredients are Liquid Paraffin and Yellow Soft Paraffin. Each tube contains 4 grams of smooth yellow eye ointment.

**Manufacturer:**

Tubilux Pharma S.P.A, Via Costarica, 20/22, N/P – Pomezia, Italy

**Marketing Authorisation Holder:**

Martindale Pharmaceuticals Ltd  
Bampton Road, Romford, RM3 8UG United Kingdom

This leaflet was last revised in: May 2017

**M MARTINDALE PHARMA**  
Bampton Road, Harold Hill, Romford, RM3 8UG, UK