

Hirsutism

Hirsutism may result from hormonal disorders or as a side-effect of drugs such as minoxidil below, corticosteroids, anabolic steroids, androgens, danazol p. 783, and progestogens.

Weight loss can reduce hirsutism in obese women.

Women should be advised about local methods of hair removal, and in the mildest cases this may be all that is required.

Eflornithine p. 1342 an antiprotozoal drug, inhibits the enzyme ornithine decarboxylase in hair follicles. Topical eflornithine can be used as an adjunct to laser therapy for facial hirsutism in women.

Co-cyprindiol p. 1335 may be effective for moderately severe hirsutism. Metformin hydrochloride p. 730 is an alternative in women with polycystic ovary syndrome [unlicensed indication]. Systemic treatment is required for 6–12 months before benefit is seen.

Androgenetic alopecia

Finasteride p. 831 is licensed for the treatment of androgenetic alopecia in men. Continuous use for 3–6 months is required before benefit is seen, and effects are reversed 6–12 months after treatment is discontinued.

Topical application of minoxidil may stimulate limited hair growth in a small proportion of adults but only for as long as it is used.

Other drugs used for Scalp and hair conditions Coal tar, p. 1319 • Coal tar with salicylic acid and precipitated sulfur, p. 1320

ANTISEPTICS AND DISINFECTANTS > UNDECENOATES

Cetrimide with undecenoic acid

● INDICATIONS AND DOSE

Scalp psoriasis | Seborrhoeic dermatitis | Dandruff

- ▶ TO THE SKIN
- ▶ Child: Apply 3 times a week for 1 week, then apply twice weekly
- ▶ Adult: Apply 3 times a week for 1 week, then apply twice weekly

- **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug.

Shampoo

- ▶ **Ceanel** (Alliance Pharmaceuticals Ltd)
Undecenoic acid 10 mg per 1 ml, Phenylethyl alcohol 75 mg per 1 ml, Cetrimide 100 mg per 1 ml Ceanel Concentrate shampoo | 150 ml [P] £3.40 | 500 ml [P] £9.80

ANTISEPTICS AND DISINFECTANTS > OTHER

Benzalkonium chloride

26-Mar-2020

● INDICATIONS AND DOSE

Seborrhoeic scalp conditions associated with dandruff and scaling

- ▶ TO THE SKIN
- ▶ Child: Apply as required
- ▶ Adult: Apply as required

- **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug.

Shampoo

- ▶ **Dermax** (Dermal Laboratories Ltd)
Benzalkonium chloride 5 mg per 1 ml Dermax Therapeutic 0.5% shampoo | 250 ml [P] £5.69 DT = £5.69

VITAMINS AND TRACE ELEMENTS

Selenium

● INDICATIONS AND DOSE

Seborrhoeic dermatitis | Dandruff

- ▶ TO THE SKIN USING SHAMPOO
- ▶ Child 5–17 years: Apply twice weekly for 2 weeks, then apply once weekly for 2 weeks, then apply as required
- ▶ Adult: Apply twice weekly for 2 weeks, then apply once weekly for 2 weeks, then apply as required

Pityriasis versicolor

- ▶ TO THE SKIN USING SHAMPOO
- ▶ Adult: Apply once daily for 7 days, apply to the affected area and leave on for 10 minutes before rinsing off. The course may be repeated if necessary. Diluting with a small amount of water prior to application can reduce irritation

- **UNLICENSED USE** The use of selenium sulfide shampoo as a lotion for the treatment of pityriasis (tinea) versicolor is an unlicensed indication.

- **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: selenium

- **PATIENT AND CARER ADVICE** Avoid using 48 hours before or after applying hair colouring, straightening or waving preparations.

- **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug.

Shampoo

EXCIPIENTS: May contain Fragrances

▶ **Selsun** (Chattem (U.K.) Ltd)

Selenium sulfide 25 mg per 1 ml Selsun 2.5% shampoo | 50 ml [P] £1.61 DT = £1.61 | 100 ml [P] £2.15 DT = £2.15 | 150 ml [P] £3.06 DT = £3.06

7.1 Alopecia

Other drugs used for Alopecia Finasteride, p. 831

VASODILATORS > VASODILATOR ANTIHYPERTENSIVES

Minoxidil

01-May-2020

● INDICATIONS AND DOSE

REGAINE® FOR MEN EXTRA STRENGTH FOAM

Androgenetic alopecia

- ▶ TO THE SKIN
- ▶ Adult: Apply 0.5 capful twice daily, to be applied to the affected areas of scalp; discontinue if no improvement after 16 weeks

REGAINE® FOR MEN EXTRA STRENGTH SOLUTION

Androgenetic alopecia

- ▶ TO THE SKIN
- ▶ Adult: Apply 1 mL twice daily, to be applied to the affected areas of scalp; discontinue if no improvement after 1 year

REGAINE® FOR WOMEN REGULAR STRENGTH

Androgenetic alopecia

- ▶ TO THE SKIN
- ▶ Adult: Apply 1 mL twice daily, to be applied to the affected areas of scalp; discontinue if no improvement after 1 year

- **CONTRA-INDICATIONS** Pheochromocytoma

- **CAUTIONS** Avoid contact with broken, infected, shaved, or inflamed skin • avoid contact with eyes • avoid contact with