

414 docosanol topical

- To avoid receiving vaccinations while taking product
- **Pregnancy/breastfeeding:** to use barrier contraception during and for several mo after treatment; to avoid breastfeeding

docosanol topical

See Appendix B

docosate calcium (OTC)

(dok'yoo-sate cal'see-um)

Kaopectate Stool Softener, Kao-Tin

docosate sodium (OTC)

Colace, Correctol, Diocto, Docu

DOK, Doculace, Dulcolax,

Dulcolax stool softener,

Enemeez, Fleet Pedialax, Fleet

Sof-Lax, Phillips Liquid-Gels,

Selex , Silace, Soflax 

Func. class.: Laxative, emollient; stool softener

Chem. class.: Anionic surfactant

Do not confuse:

Colace/Cozaar

Dulcolax (docosate)/Dulcolax (bisacodyl)

ACTION: Increases water, fat penetration in intestine; allows for easier passage of stool

USES: Prevention of dry, hard stools

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Hypersensitivity, obstruction, fecal impaction, nausea/vomiting

Precautions: Pregnancy, breastfeeding

DOSAGE AND ROUTES

- **Adult:** PO 50-400 mg/day in divided doses (sodium) or 240 mg q day (calcium); Rectal ENEMA 4 mL
- **Child >12 yr:** ENEMA 2 mL
- **Child 6-12 yr:** PO 40-150 mg/day (sodium) in divided doses
- **Child 3-6 yr:** PO 20-60 mg/day (sodium) in divided doses

- **Child <3 yr:** PO 10-40 mg/day (sodium) in divided doses

- **Infant:** PO 5 mg/kg/day in divided doses

Available forms: Calcium: 240 mg; sodium: caps 50, 100, 250 mg; tabs 100 mg; syr 20 mg/5 mL; liquid 50 mg/5 mL, enema 283 mg/5mL

Administer:

- Swallow tabs whole; do not break, crush, or chew
- Oral sol: diluted in milk, fruit juice to decrease bitter taste
- In morning or evening (oral dose)
- Store in cool environment; do not freeze

SIDE EFFECTS

EENT: Bitter taste, throat irritation

GI: Nausea, anorexia, cramps, diarrhea

INTEG: Rash

PHARMACOKINETICS

Onset 12-72 hr (PO), 2-15 min (rectal)

INTERACTIONS

- **Toxicity:** mineral oil

Drug/Herb

Increase: laxative action—flax, senna

NURSING CONSIDERATIONS

Assess:

- **Cause of constipation;** identify whether fluids, bulk, or exercise is missing from lifestyle; constipating products
- Cramping, rectal bleeding, nausea, vomiting; if these occur, product should be discontinued

- **Pregnancy/breastfeeding:** low risk of fetal harm in pregnancy, breastfeeding

Evaluate:

- Therapeutic response: decrease in constipation

Teach patient/family:

- That normal bowel movements do not always occur daily
- Not to use in presence of abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting
- To notify prescriber if constipation is unrelieved or if symptoms of electrolyte imbalance occur: muscle cramps, pain, weakness, dizziness, excessive thirst