

# Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution

## CONSUMER MEDICINE INFORMATION

### What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution. It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have benefits and risks. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you using Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution against the benefits this product is expected to have for you.

This medicine is likely to be used while you are at the clinic or in hospital. If possible, read this leaflet carefully before this medicine is given to you. In some cases this leaflet may be given to you after the medicine has been used.

**If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

**Keep this leaflet.**

You may need to read it again.

### What Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution is used for

Your doctor or nurse will use Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution for cleansing and irrigating the skin or dirty wounds. It contains antiseptics which will help prevent infection.

### Before you use Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution

**Do not use it after the expiry date (EXP) printed on the label.**

It may have no effect at all, or worse, an entirely unexpected effect if you take it after the expiry date.

**Do not use Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.**

Wounds may take longer to heal if cetrимide is used regularly. Therefore it is important to use this product as directed by the doctor.

**You must tell your doctor if you have allergies to:**

- chlorhexidine
- cetrимide
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet
- any other substances, such as foods, preservatives or dyes

If you have an allergic reaction, you may get a skin rash.

**Before any Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution is used please tell your doctor about any of these things and anything else which you feel is important.**

### How Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution is used

Your doctor or nurse will normally use this irrigation to wash and clean your skin or wounds. It is for external use only and should not be injected or swallowed. It should not be used in the eyes or ears.

Your doctor or nurse will decide how much of the irrigation to use which will be sufficient for your needs. As each irrigation is sterile, your doctor will use a new solution each time.

If you are given this product to use at home it must be used as directed by your doctor or nurse. Rinse the area to be cleaned with water, then use the smallest amount of irrigation to gently wash the area. Rinse again with water thoroughly. Use a new solution each time.

Your doctor or nurse will be happy to discuss the way the Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution will be used.

#### **Overdose:**

As your doctor or nurse will administer this irrigation, they will use the correct amount. As it is for external use only, it is unlikely an overdose will occur.

**Immediately telephone your doctor or go to your nearest hospital emergency department if you think that someone may have drunk Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution or if it has been**

**put into the eyes or ears, even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.**

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## Side effects

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Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution helps most people when used for washing and cleansing the skin or wounds, but it may have some unwanted side-effects in a few people.

All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side effects.

### **Tell your doctor if you experience a skin rash or reaction.**

If you get a skin rash it may be because you have had an allergic reaction to the irrigation. If this is the case, you should no longer use this irrigation.

Tell your doctor, nurse or pharmacist as soon as possible if you feel anything unusual during or after Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution has been used.

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## Storage

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### **If you have this product at home, it should be kept in the original container, in a safe place, out of reach of children.**

A locked cupboard at least one and a half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution should be stored below 25 degrees C and protected from light.

### **Do not leave Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution in the car on hot days.**

### **Disposal**

Do not exceed the stated expiry date printed on the label

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## Product Description

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### **What it looks like**

Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution is a sterile, orange solution and comes in a 30 mL plastic Steritube®.

Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solutions can be identified by an Australian Registration Number which is found on the packaging:

AUST R 57021

Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution 30mL Steritube® ampoule (chlorhexidine gluconate 0.015% w/v and cetrимide 0.15% w/v)

AUST R 57011

Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution 30mL Steritube® ampoule (chlorhexidine gluconate 0.05% w/v and cetrимide 0.5% w/v)

### **Ingredients**

Chlorhexidine and Cetrимide Irrigation Solution comes in two different strengths and contains the active ingredients chlorhexidine gluconate and cetrимide. The colouring agent Sunset Yellow is also present. These ingredients are dissolved in Purified Water.

### **Supplied in Australia by:**

Pfizer Australia Pty Ltd

ABN 50 008 422 348

38-42 Wharf Road

West Ryde NSW 2114 Australia

Toll Free Number: 1800 675 229

### **Supplied in New Zealand by:**

Pfizer New Zealand Ltd

PO Box 3998

Auckland, New Zealand

Toll Free Number: 0800 736 363

This Consumer Medicine Information was written in September 1996.

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