VECHLOR EYE DROPS

Chloramphenicol 0.5% + Hydroxypropyl Methylcellulose 0.5%

Sterile ophthalmic solution | 10 mL

COMPOSITION

Each 1 mL contains:

Chloramphenicol BP ..... **5 mg**

Hydroxypropyl Methylcellulose (Hypromellose) ..... **5 mg**

Other ingredients: as specified in the approved formulation.

THERAPEUTIC CLASS

Ophthalmic anti-infective (chloramphenicol, broad-spectrum antibiotic) with a viscosity-enhancing ophthalmic lubricant (hypromellose).

PHARMACOLOGY

Chloramphenicol inhibits bacterial protein synthesis by binding to the 50S ribosomal subunit. It is mainly bacteriostatic against susceptible organisms. Hypromellose increases viscosity and provides a lubricating, protective film on the ocular surface; it may prolong contact time of the drops.

INDICATIONS

Treatment of acute bacterial conjunctivitis and other superficial ocular infections caused by chloramphenicol-susceptible organisms, when prescribed. Not indicated for viral or fungal eye infections. Hypromellose provides supplementary ocular surface lubrication.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Adults and children aged 2 years or older: An example regimen for chloramphenicol 0.5% ophthalmic drops is **1 drop in the affected eye(s) every 2 hours during waking hours for the first 48 hours, then every 4 hours**, for a total course of **5 days**. Regimens differ between approved products. Use Vechlor only as directed by the prescriber and its approved labeling. Children under 2 years: only on specific medical advice.

METHOD OF USE

Wash hands. Tilt head back and gently pull down the lower eyelid. Instil the prescribed number of drops without touching the dropper tip to the eye or any surface. Close the eye and press gently over the inner corner for approximately one minute to reduce systemic absorption. Replace cap immediately. If other eye drops are used, separate administration by at least 5 minutes unless otherwise directed.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Known hypersensitivity to chloramphenicol, hypromellose or any ingredient. A personal or family history of blood dyscrasias, including aplastic anaemia, may be a contraindication under certain chloramphenicol product labels; follow locally approved labeling.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Rare but serious blood disorders: Bone marrow suppression, including aplastic anaemia, has been reported following topical chloramphenicol. Stop use and seek urgent evaluation for unexplained bruising, bleeding, pallor, persistent fever, sore throat or unusual fatigue. Avoid prolonged or repeated courses unless clinically justified.

WHEN TO SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE

Urgent ophthalmic assessment is required for severe eye pain, reduced vision, photophobia, marked swelling, corneal opacity, injury, contact-lens-associated red eye or worsening symptoms. If no improvement within 48 hours, reassess diagnosis and treatment. Severe ocular infection may require additional treatment.

CONTACT LENSES AND CONTAMINATION

Do not wear contact lenses during treatment of an eye infection. Avoid touching the dropper tip; never share the bottle. Discard the product if contamination is suspected. Temporary blurred vision may occur after instillation; do not drive until vision clears.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

Avoid concurrent medicines known to suppress bone marrow function unless prescribed after careful assessment. Inform the clinician about all eye medicines and systemic therapies. Separate other topical eye products as directed.

PREGNANCY AND BREASTFEEDING

Safety of ophthalmic chloramphenicol during pregnancy and lactation is not fully established. Use only if considered essential by the treating clinician after benefit-risk assessment. Punctal occlusion may reduce systemic absorption.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Transient stinging, burning, irritation, itching, redness, blurred vision or local hypersensitivity may occur. Rare serious reactions include allergic swelling, anaphylaxis and bone marrow disorders. Discontinue and seek medical care for severe reactions.

OVERDOSAGE

Excessive topical dosing may cause local irritation. Accidental ingestion requires medical advice, particularly in children. Rinse the eye with clean water if excessive irritation occurs and seek medical assessment if symptoms persist.

STORAGE

Store refrigerated at **2–8°C**; do not freeze. Protect from light. Keep bottle tightly closed and out of reach of children. Follow the approved Vechlor label for the in-use discard period; do not assume a shelf life after opening.

PRESENTATION

Vechlor Eye Drops: sterile ophthalmic solution containing Chloramphenicol 0.5% w/v and Hydroxypropyl Methylcellulose 0.5% w/v, in a **10 mL** bottle.

MANUFACTURED BY

Vega Pharmaceuticals (Pvt.) Ltd.