VEGAQUIN CREAM

(Hydroquinone 2% w/w)

COMPOSITION

Each gram of cream contains Hydroquinone 20 mg (2% w/w). Cream base and excipients: as per approved formulation.

DESCRIPTION & PHARMACOLOGY

Hydroquinone is a topical depigmenting agent. It reduces melanin formation by inhibiting tyrosinase-mediated oxidation of tyrosine and other processes involved in pigmentation. The effect is gradual and may reverse following ultraviolet exposure.

INDICATIONS

For gradual lightening of selected hyperpigmented skin conditions, including melasma (chloasma), freckles, age spots (solar lentigines) and post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation, as clinically appropriate and subject to locally approved indications.

DOSAGE & ADMINISTRATION

For external skin use only. Apply a thin layer to affected pigmented areas, generally once or twice daily, or as directed by the physician. Avoid unaffected skin where possible. Wash hands after application.

If there is no meaningful improvement after approximately 2 months, discontinue and consult the physician. Do not use continuously for prolonged periods without medical review.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Clean and dry the affected skin. Apply sparingly, avoiding the eyes, lips, nostrils and mucous membranes. Do not apply to broken, irritated or sunburned skin.

Before initial use, test a small area of intact skin and observe for approximately 24 hours. Stop use if marked itching, swelling, blistering or significant inflammation develops.

SUN PROTECTION

Daily broad-spectrum sunscreen and protective clothing are essential. Minimise sun exposure during treatment and after improvement because ultraviolet exposure can cause repigmentation.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Known hypersensitivity to hydroquinone or any component of the cream. Do not use in the eyes or on mucous membranes.

PAEDIATRIC USE

Safety and effectiveness in children aged 12 years or younger have not been established; use only under specialist advice.

PREGNANCY & LACTATION

Safety during pregnancy is not established; avoid unless specifically advised following benefit-risk assessment. It is not known whether topical hydroquinone enters breast milk. Use cautiously during breastfeeding; prevent infant contact with treated skin.

WARNINGS & PRECAUTIONS

Exogenous ochronosis (persistent blue-black skin darkening) can occur, particularly with prolonged use. Discontinue immediately and seek dermatological assessment if unusual darkening develops.

Avoid excessive or prolonged application. Do not use for general skin bleaching over large areas. Hydroquinone may cause irritation, contact dermatitis and uneven lightening.

Some formulations contain sulfites, which can cause allergic reactions in susceptible individuals; check the approved formulation for excipient-specific warnings.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

Use caution when combining with other potentially irritating or photosensitising topical products, including exfoliating acids, retinoids and benzoyl peroxide. Ask the prescriber before combining treatments.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Possible reactions include mild burning, stinging, dryness, redness, irritation and contact dermatitis. Severe inflammation, blistering or persistent skin darkening requires discontinuation and medical review.

THERAPEUTIC CLASS

Topical depigmenting agent / melanin synthesis inhibitor. Primary marketing segment: Dermatology.

OVERDOSAGE

Excess topical application may cause irritation without improving effectiveness. Wash off excess cream and seek advice for significant reactions. If accidentally swallowed, obtain urgent medical attention.

STORAGE CONDITIONS

Store according to approved product specifications, protected from excessive heat and light. Keep the tube tightly closed. Do not use if the product has visibly deteriorated or after expiry. Keep out of reach of children.

PRESENTATION

VegaQuin Cream 2% w/w: 15 g tube.

PATIENT ADVICE

Use only on the prescribed areas and for the prescribed duration. Apply sunscreen daily. Do not apply near eyes or to damaged skin. Stop and contact the physician for severe irritation or blue-black discolouration.

MANUFACTURED BY

Vega Pharmaceuticals (Pvt.) Ltd.