

Picato (ingenol mebutate) Patient Information

You have been prescribed Picato – a medication that treats actinic keratosis – the most common precancer that forms on skin damaged by overexposure to the sun during your life. This medication works by destroying abnormal cells that cause skin cancer. The medication is applied for two or three days as instructed by your physician or provider. Typically, in the areas that you apply the medication, you may see a reddening of the skin, flaking, scaling, puffiness, or crusting within the first day. Even though the medication is only applied for a couple of days, it continues to work for several weeks. Healing time depends on the location of treatment. The face and scalp tend to heal more quickly in roughly two weeks, compared to the trunk, arms, and legs, which may take about four weeks.

Considerations:

- 1. Do not expose the treated area to prolonged or direct sunlight.
- 2. While using Picato, use a moisturizer with an SPF of 30 or a sunblock with an SPF of 30.
- 3. You must store your medication in the refrigerator.
- 4. Apply medication only as instructed by your physician or provider.
- 5. After application, allow the area to dry for 15 minutes.
- 6. Do not cover the treated area with a bandage or any dressing as this can intensify the reaction.
- 7. You should pick a time to complete this treatment when your business and social activities will not be affected.
- 8. After using the medication for the prescribed treatment duration, it is recommended to use an ointment such as Aquaphor or Hydrocortisone 1%. Both products are available over the counter.
- 9. A light coat of makeup may be worn over the affected areas during the daytime if you are applying medication at night.
- 10. If at any time you feel that the reaction is too strong or uncomfortable, discontinue the medication and contact our office.

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