

PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER

ZACIN 0.025% w/w Cream

Capsaicin 0.025% w/w

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.
- If any of the side effects get serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

In this leaflet:

1. What ZACIN is and what it is used for.
2. Before you use ZACIN.
3. How to use ZACIN.
4. Possible side effects.
5. How to store ZACIN.
6. Further information.

1. WHAT ZACIN IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

The name of this medicine is ZACIN cream. The active ingredient in this medicine is capsaicin which is a naturally occurring substance found in plants.

ZACIN cream is used to relieve the pain from osteoarthritis.

2. BEFORE YOU USE ZACIN CREAM

Do not use ZACIN cream:

- If you are **allergic** (hypersensitive) to capsaicin or any of the other ingredients.
- On broken or irritated skin.

This medicine is not suitable for use in children.

Take special care with ZACIN cream

- Keep away from the eyes (if it does accidentally get into your eyes or onto broken or irritated skin, wash off with plenty of water).
- Wash your hands immediately after applying the cream, unless the hands are the treated areas, in which case, they should be washed 30 minutes after applying.
- Avoid hot baths or showers immediately before or just after applying ZACIN cream.
- Do not apply tight bandages on top of ZACIN cream.
- Avoid breathing in any vapours from the cream, as this can cause irritation of the eyes and breathing difficulties (including making asthma worse).

Taking other medicines

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

If you are pregnant, think you might be pregnant, or are breast-feeding, you should ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking ZACIN.

Important information about some of the ingredients of ZACIN

ZACIN may cause local skin reactions (e.g. contact dermatitis) due to the product containing cetyl alcohol.

3. HOW TO USE ZACIN CREAM

It is important to use this product as directed by your doctor/hospital consultant. ZACIN should be applied to the affected area 4 times a day, with a gap of at least 4 hrs between each application.

A small amount of cream (about the size of a pea) should be rubbed onto the area to be treated with your fingers. Make sure that all the cream is rubbed in so it is no longer visible.

Wash your hands immediately after application of ZACIN, unless you are treating arthritic hand joints, when you should wait 30 minutes before washing your hands.

You should begin to get pain relief within the first two weeks of treatment, but the maximum effect may take a month to build up as ZACIN works gradually.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines ZACIN can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. ZACIN cream can cause a brief burning feeling when applied. This burning is more common when:

- The cream is used less than 4 times a day.
- Too much cream is applied.
- The cream is applied just before or after a hot bath or shower.

Rarely when ZACIN cream is applied the vapour can cause brief irritation of the eyes, nose, and throat, such as runny nose, cough or sneezing, breathlessness or worsening of asthma.

ZACIN may also cause irritation of the skin for example itching or stinging.

If any of the side effects become serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

5. HOW TO STORE ZACIN CREAM

Keep out of the reach and sight of children.

Store below 25°C.

Do not use after the expiry date printed on the carton and tube.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

What ZACIN contains

ZACIN cream contains 0.025% capsaicin as the active ingredient. It also contains purified water, sorbitol solution, isopropyl myristate, cetyl alcohol, white soft paraffin, glycerol stearate, PEG-100 stearate and benzyl alcohol as the inactive ingredients.

What ZACIN cream looks like and contents of pack

ZACIN cream is a white cream packed in aluminium tubes with epoxyphenolic lining and polypropylene spiked cap containing 45 gm ZACIN cream.

Marketing Authorisation Holder

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Manufacturer

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The leaflet was last approved in March 2012

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