

BEST PRACTICE GUIDES: GENERAL RESOURCES

MINOXIDIL INFORMATION SHEET

When recommending minoxidil please remind patients of the following:

- To always use this medicine exactly as instructed in the information leaflet.
- To ask if they need more information or advice.
- To report any side effects, to you, doctor or pharmacist.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- If they are allergic to minoxidil or any of the other ingredients of the medicine (listed in the preparation)
- If female, due to occasional reports of cosmetically disturbing reversible hair growth on the face during treatment
- If they concurrently use other topical medical preparations on the scalp
- If they suffer from suddenly occurring or patchy hair loss.

THIS INCLUDES ANY POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS LISTED BELOW

- If the cause for the hair loss is not known, or when the scalp is red, inflamed or painful.
- there is evidence that they have cardiovascular disease or heart rhythm disturbances
- If they suffer from high blood pressure
- If they use medicines to treat high blood pressure (antihypertensive drugs)
- If low blood pressure is detected or
- If one or more of the following symptoms occur:
 - chest pain

- increased heart rate
- faintness or dizziness
- sudden and unexplainable weight gain
- swollen hands or feet
- persistent reddening or irritation of the scalp

OTHER POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Very common: may affect more than 1 in 10 people

headache

Common: may affect up to 1 in 10 people

Weight gain

Increased hair growth on the face

Itching, skin reddening and skin rash

Shortness of breath

Swelling of arms and legs

High blood pressure

Irritation of the scalp such as stinging, burning, dryness, itching, scaling of the skin, hair follicle inflammation.

Uncommon: may affect up to 1 in 100 people

Dizziness

Nausea

Frequency not known

Contact dermatitis

Depressed mood

Eye irritation

Increased heart rate, palpitations, low blood pressure and vomiting

Administration site conditions, which can affect the ears and the face such as, e.g.

Itching, skin irritation, pain, skin reddening, swelling, dry skin and inflammatory rash which can lead to exfoliation, skin inflammation (dermatitis), blistering, bleeding and ulceration temporary hair loss, change in hair colour, change in hair structure or chest pain.

This is not an exhaustive list so ask patients to report any unusual symptoms. You may also want to recreate signed checklist as evidence that you have covered all of the above.