

# ANTI-BACTERIAL EYE PREPARATIONS

**Amikacin Eyedrops, Cefazolin Eyedrops  
Chloramphenicol Eyedrops, Chlortetracycline Eye Ointment  
Framycetin Eyedrops, Gentamicin Eyedrops  
Fusidic Acid Eyedrops, Vancomycin Eyedrops**



**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**  
SINGAPORE



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## ABOUT your medicine

Antibacterial eye preparations are used to treat infections of the eye. This medicine may be given alone or with other medicines that are taken by mouth for eye infections.

## HOW should I use the medicine?

Your doctor will determine the amount of medicine you should use based on the severity of your condition. Use this medicine in the dose prescribed by your doctor.

Proper administration of eye preparations:

- Wash your hands with soap and water and read the instructions on the label.
- Shake the bottle before use.
- Tilt your head backwards and look up.
- Gently pull the lower eyelid down to form a pocket and squeeze the bottle to apply a single drop into it. To prevent contamination, please ensure that the tip of the bottle does not touch the eye or any other surface.
- For ointments, apply a 0.5-1cm ribbon to the inner side of the lower lid.
- Keep your eyelid closed for at least 30 seconds (do not blink, rub, wipe or squeeze the eye).
- Gently apply pressure to the inner corner of the lower eyelid with your finger for 1 or 2 minutes to allow the medicine to be absorbed by the eye.
- If you need to put in more than one drop, or if you are using another type of eyedrops, you should wait for 5 to 10 minutes before putting the next drop in. (This is to prevent the first drop from being washed out by the second before it has time to work, and to prevent interaction between 2 different types of eyedrops.)
- If you are using eyedrops as well as eye ointments, you should use the eyedrops first.

*Keep all medication out of reach of children  
Discard all medication that has expired or is no longer required*

If you are wearing contact lenses, do not wear them until your entire course of medicine is completed.

Eyedrops should not be used for longer than 4 weeks after opening. Write down the date that you opened the bottle on the label so that you will know when to throw it away.

## What should I do if I FORGET a dose?

If you miss a dose or forget to use your medicine, use it as soon as you can. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to use the medicine and skip the missed dose. Do not double your dose or use extra medicine to make up for a missed dose.

## What are the possible SIDE-EFFECTS of the medicine?

Side-effects that may occur include a burning sensation or itching of the eyes, foreign body sensation, an increase in eye pressure and eyelid crusting. You may or may not experience any of these side-effects. These side-effects may go away during treatment as your body adjusts to the medicine. Check with your doctor if the effects persist.

Seek medical attention if any of the following side-effects occur:

- Rash or redness around the eyes
- Redness or swelling of the membrane covering the white part of the eye

## What PRECAUTIONS should I take?

Inform your doctor if:

- you are allergic to any other medicines or if you develop an allergy while using this medicine. The symptoms of a drug allergy include one or more of the following: swollen face/eyes/lips, difficulty in breathing or widespread itchy skin rashes.
- your eye condition does not improve after 5 to 7 days or if it worsens.

## How should I STORE the medicine?

Store the medicine in a dry place at room temperature, away from heat and direct light. Do not refrigerate your medicines unless instructed to do so.