

# Sirolimus ointment

## What is sirolimus ointment?

Sirolimus ointment is an immunosuppressive medicine (i.e. it stops or slows down the body's immune response). The ointment contains sirolimus mixed with white soft paraffin.

## What is it used for?

Sirolimus ointment is used to treat and prevent the growth of angiofibromas, which develop in tuberous sclerosis. Angiofibromas are a benign (i.e. non-cancer) tumour that is made up of blood vessels and fibrous (connective) tissue.

## How does sirolimus ointment work?

Sirolimus works to slow the growth of over-active cells that form angiofibromas. This makes their size and appearance smaller.

## How to use this medicine

A thin coat of the ointment should be applied to the affected areas once daily (in some cases, applying up to twice daily may be required). As it takes effect, the frequency of application may be reduced, but you will be guided with this by your doctor.

Apply the ointment as follows:

1. Wash and dry your hands.
2. Put on gloves.
3. Use a cotton bud or disposable spatula to take a small amount of ointment from the jar. Apply it only to the affected area(s), avoiding normal skin. If it gets on normal skin, wash and dry that area.
4. Gently rub the ointment in using your gloved finger. Do not touch the ointment directly with your hands.
5. Avoid getting the ointment near your eyes, nose and inside your mouth. Be extra careful when applying it around these areas.
6. Put the lid back on the jar, remove gloves and wash your hands immediately with soap and water.
7. Dispose of any waste including gloves and used paper towels in a double lined plastic rubbish bin. Treat the double bag like normal household waste for disposal.

If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, please avoid handling this medication, if possible.

## What to do if a dose is missed

Don't worry if an application is missed occasionally.



## Storing the medicine

Store in a cool dry place below 25°C (do not refrigerate) and keep it out of children's reach.

Return unused or out of date ointment to a pharmacy for safe disposal.

## Possible side effects

- Sirolimus ointment can make your skin more sensitive to sunlight, so try to avoid long exposure. Wear protective clothing, a hat, and use SPF 50+ sunscreen when outdoors. You can apply sunscreen over the ointment once it's absorbed.
- You might experience rash, irritation, itching, pain, or redness where the ointment is applied. While it's usually well-tolerated, if you notice any of these, let your doctor know.
- The greasy base of the ointment might worsen pimples in teenagers.

Remember to contact your doctor if you notice any side effects, even if they're not mentioned here.

## Important information

Sirolimus ointment typically doesn't interact with other medications since it's not absorbed much into the bloodstream. However, it's always wise to consult your doctor or pharmacist before using any other medicines, including those bought over the counter from a pharmacy, supermarket, or health food shop.

Contact your doctor if you notice glands become swollen while using this ointment.

Sirolimus ointment is a specialist treatment that can only be provided by PCH Pharmacy

If you have any concerns, contact your child's doctor or PCH Pharmacy Department:  
Dispensary 6456 0190 – select option 2.

Paediatric Medicines Information Service 6456 0190 – select option 1.

## In case of overdose or poisoning contact the Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26

This medication may be used for a variety of conditions, across various age groups. Some of the information in this sheet may not be appropriate for you/your child. If you have questions or concerns, please discuss with your pharmacist or doctor.

**This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with a disability.**

**Child and Adolescent Health Service**  
15 Hospital Avenue, Nedlands, WA, 6009  
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**Child and Adolescent Health Service**

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