

Cleocin (clindamycin) basics

Treats acne. Cleocin (clindamycin) is proven to be effective at treating acne when combined with another acne medicine and is available in a variety of formulations.

What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.

	Hours	Days	Weeks	Months	Long term
Cleocin (clindamycin) Drug effectiveness		[Blue bar indicating effectiveness from Day 1 to Month 3]			
Possible side effects					
Burning 11% chance		[Red bar indicating burning from Day 1 to Day 7]			
Itching 11% chance		[Red bar indicating itching from Day 1 to Day 7]			
Dryness 23% chance		[Red bar indicating dryness from Day 1 to Month 3]			

Tips from pharmacists

- Clean the affected area with mild soap and allow to dry before applying Cleocin (clindamycin).
- If you are using the lotion, shake well before using.
- Do not spray the foam product into your hands or face as it can melt. Spray the foam into the clear cap that came with the product. Your pharmacist can show you how to correctly use and apply the foam product.
- Avoid using other harsh skin products that can further dry or irritate your skin.
- Use sunscreen or wear a hat when you go out. Cleocin (clindamycin) can make your skin more sensitive to sunlight.
- Including a moisturizer in your skin regimen can help relieve dryness. Speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you need help choosing the best moisturizer for your skin.

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Skin irritation

Cleocin (clindamycin) may cause skin redness, burning, and peeling. Speak to your doctor if the irritation is bothersome or does not go away.

Severe diarrhea and stomach cramps

In rare cases, Cleocin (clindamycin) can increase your chances of getting a serious and life-threatening bacterial infection. If you experience diarrhea with bloody stools and/or get severe stomach cramps while using Cleocin (clindamycin), talk to your doctor right away. In some cases, this infection can develop even several weeks after you have stopped using the medicine.