

Clindesse (clindamycin) basics

Treats bacterial vaginal infections with a single dose. Clindesse (clindamycin) treats vaginal infections and is very easy to use.

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
Clindesse (clindamycin) Drug effectiveness					
Possible side effects	Hours	Days	Weeks	Months	Long term
Yeast infection 14% chance vs. 8% placebo*					
Headache 7% chance vs. 2% placebo*					
Back pain 5% chance vs. 1% placebo*					
Constipation 2% chance					
Bladder infection 2% chance					

* Placebo is a sugar pill with no medicinal benefit.

Tips from pharmacists

- Wash your hands before and after using Clindesse (clindamycin).
- Clindesse (clindamycin) comes in a tube that is already measured out for you, so you don't need to draw up the cream into an applicator.
- You shouldn't have vaginal intercourse or use any vaginal products like douches or tampons for at least 7 days after you use Clindesse (clindamycin).
- Clindesse (clindamycin) can weaken or break condoms and vaginal diaphragms for 5 days after you finish using it. These barrier methods will not be reliable for preventing pregnancy and STIs during this time.
- You don't have to lay down after inserting the cream, and it can be used at any time of day.

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Allergy alert

You should not use Clindesse (clindamycin) if you know you are allergic to clindamycin or any lincosamides. Tell your doctor and pharmacist about any drug allergies you have before using Clindesse (clindamycin). If you get a sudden high fever, severe skin rash, or trouble breathing while using Clindesse (clindamycin), talk to your doctor right away or go to the emergency room.

Severe diarrhea

Rarely, all antibacterials including Clindesse (clindamycin) can cause severe diarrhea a few weeks after you've finished taking the antibiotic. Having bowel diseases like Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis increases your risk. Tell your doctor if you have bowel disease or have ever had severe diarrhea after using antibacterials before.

Weakened condoms and vaginal diaphragms

Clindesse (clindamycin) contains mineral oil which can weaken rubber or latex products like condoms and vaginal diaphragms. The mineral oil stays in your vagina for 5 days after you use Clindesse (clindamycin). These barrier methods may not protect against pregnancy or STIs during this time, and you shouldn't have vaginal intercourse for 5 days after you use Clindesse (clindamycin).