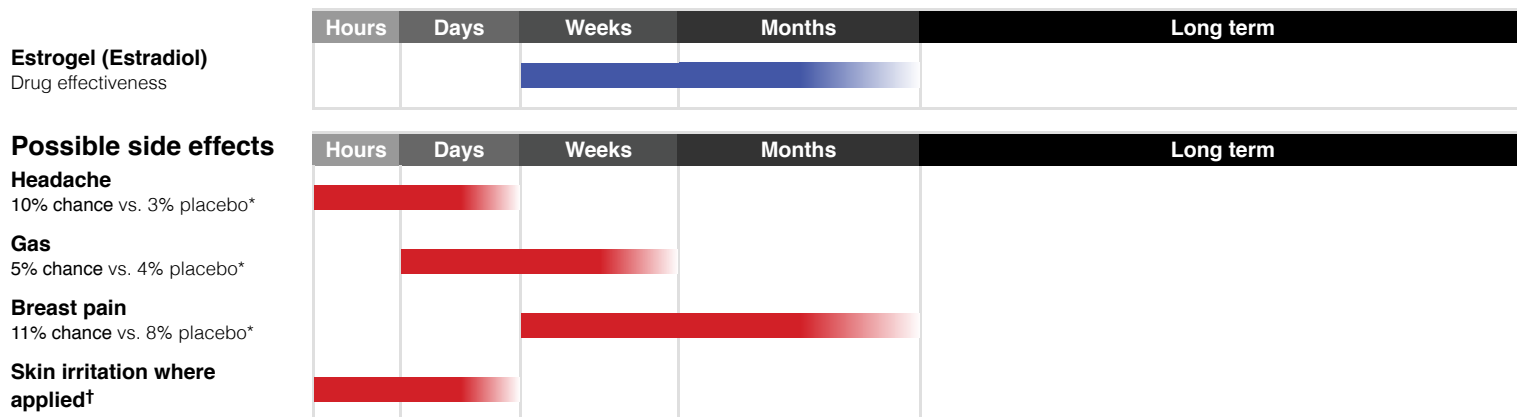


EstroGel (Estradiol) basics

Relieves hot flashes and vaginal dryness due to menopause. EstroGel (Estradiol) is a topical gel that can relieve both vaginal dryness and hot flashes, but needs to be applied across the length your entire arm.

What to expect when starting

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



* Placebo is a sugar pill with no medicinal benefit.

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- Always prime the pump by pressing 3 times before use when starting a new bottle.
- Apply the gel across your right or left arm. Spread the gel thinly from the wrist to the shoulder and let it dry before covering. Don't let anyone touch the area for at least 1 hour.
- Never apply the gel to your face, breasts, vagina, or irritated skin.
- Wash your hands well with soap and water after applying the gel.
- The gel is alcohol-based and flammable, so you shouldn't smoke while applying it.
- Ask your pharmacist how many pumps are available in each bottle so you don't run out of medicine.

Risks and warnings

The FDA has identified these as possible serious or life-threatening risks with this medication. Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Uterine cancer

Vaginal bleeding after menopause can be a warning sign of uterine cancer, so let your doctor know if you notice any unusual bleeding. Using medicines like EstroGel (Estradiol) for more than a year can increase your risk. Talk to your doctor about other medicines you can take with EstroGel (Estradiol) to protect yourself from cancer if you are worried.

Breast cancer

EstroGel (Estradiol) makes you more likely to get breast cancer, especially if you or your family have had breast cancer before. Only use EstroGel (Estradiol) for as long as you need it. Talk to your doctor about ways to protect yourself.

Increased risk of blood clots and stroke

EstroGel (Estradiol) raises your risk for blood clots, especially if you smoke tobacco, are obese, or if you or your family have had blood clots in the past. Get medical care right away if you have pain in your legs or arms, bad headaches, trouble breathing, or sudden changes in your speech or vision.