

# Acetasol HC (hydrocortisone / acetic acid) basics

**Treats outer ear swelling and infections.** While Acetasol HC (hydrocortisone / acetic acid) can be used to help treat ear infections, acetic acid isn't a strong antibiotic. Since you need to put cotton that has been soaked in Acetasol HC (hydrocortisone / acetic acid) into your ear for the first 24 hours of treatment, it's not a convenient option.

## 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
<b>Acetasol HC (hydrocortisone / acetic acid)</b> Drug effectiveness					
<b>Possible side effects†</b>					
<b>Skin irritation</b>					
<b>Stinging</b>					
<b>Burning</b>					

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

## Tips from pharmacists

- You need to put a wick of cotton that has been soaked with Acetasol HC (hydrocortisone / acetic acid) into the affected ear for the first 24 hours of treatment. You also need to put 3-5 drops of Acetasol HC (hydrocortisone / acetic acid) onto the cotton wick every 4 to 6 hours to keep it wet.
- After the first 24 hours, you can take the cotton wick out of your ear and put drops of Acetasol HC (hydrocortisone / acetic acid) directly inside the ear.
- Lie on your side and place 3-5 drops into the affected ear. Don't get up for another minute to make sure that the drops soak in.
- Wash your hands before and after you use Acetasol HC (hydrocortisone / acetic acid).
- Make sure the tip of the Acetasol HC (hydrocortisone / acetic acid) bottle doesn't touch your ear or any other surface.
- In order to use Acetasol HC (hydrocortisone / acetic acid) properly, any excess ear wax needs to first be removed from your ear.

## Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

### Skin irritation

Using Acetasol HC (hydrocortisone / acetic acid) can irritate the skin around your ear. Talk to your doctor if it bothers you.