

Premarin vaginal cream (conjugated estrogens) basics

Relieves vaginal dryness and pain during sex due to menopause. Premarin vaginal cream (conjugated estrogens) has less side-effects than estrogen pills, but only works for localized symptoms of menopause.

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
Premarin vaginal cream (conjugated estrogens) Drug effectiveness					
Possible side effects					
Pelvic pain 3% chance					
Vaginal discharge 3% chance vs. 7% placebo*					
Breast pain 2% chance					
Headache 2% chance vs. 2% placebo*					
Vaginal inflammation 2% chance vs. 4% placebo*					
Itching†					

* Placebo is a sugar pill with no medicinal benefit.

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- It's important that you use the lowest dose that works for you and only for as long as needed. Check with your doctor regularly if you still need to be on Premarin vaginal cream (conjugated estrogens).
- Works best if used at bedtime and applied at the same time each day.
- Screw the applicator onto the tube and squeeze the tube from the bottom to get your dose into the applicator.
- Lie on your back with your knees bent upwards. Insert the applicator deeply into your vagina and press the plunger to release the full amount of the medicine.
- Clean the applicator by removing the plunger and washing with soap and warm water after each use.
- Consider wearing a pantyliner after application, especially if you use it during the day.

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.

Endometrial cancer

If you're taking Premarin vaginal cream (conjugated estrogens) and have your uterus, you might have a higher risk of having endometrial cancer. This risk is usually associated with using estrogen for more than 1 year. Let your doctor know if you notice any unusual bleeding. Talk to your doctor if you are worried.

Breast cancer

There is an increased risk of breast cancer with taking estrogen and progestin together. Talk to your doctor about ways to protect yourself, especially if you or someone in your family has breast cancer.

Increased risk of blood clots and stroke

Premarin vaginal cream (conjugated estrogens) can raise your risk of blood clots, which can be very dangerous. You're more likely to have them if you smoke tobacco, are obese, or if you or your family have ever had blood clots. 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.