



What is Crinone used for?

Crinone is a vaginal gel that contains natural progesterone. Progesterone is a hormone that is produced by the ovaries during the second half of the menstrual cycle. It is an essential hormone for preparing the uterus (womb) for pregnancy and on-going support.

Crinone is used to supplement or replace your own natural progesterone in IVF programs. This medicine is available only on a doctor's prescription.

Do not use Crinone if you have, or have had, any of the following:

- ◆ A history of allergy to progesterone or similar medicines
- ◆ Moderate or severe liver disease
- ◆ Cancer of the breast or genital organs
- ◆ Abnormal vaginal bleeding that has not been diagnosed
- ◆ Blood clots
- ◆ Do not take Crinone after the expiry date on the applicator or package has passed
- ◆ Do not take Crinone if the packing is torn or shows signs of tampering

Before you use Crinone

TELL YOUR DOCTOR if you have any allergies to:

- ◆ Any other medicines
- ◆ Any other substance such as foods, preservatives or dyes

TELL YOUR DOCTOR if:

- ◆ are breast feeding
- ◆ are or have been very depressed
- ◆ are using other vaginal medications
- ◆ suffer from migraines, epilepsy or asthma

TELL YOUR DOCTOR if:

If you are taking any other medicines, including any that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

How to use Crinone

Crinone is applied directly from the applicator deep into the vagina. The applicator is designed to deliver a pre-measured dose of progesterone gel. A small amount of gel will be left in the applicator after use. Do not be concerned that you have not received the required dose. Your doctor may prescribe one applicator of Crinone either once or twice daily. Crinone should be used at the same time each day. If used twice a day. One applicator of Crinone should be used in the morning and one at night. An instruction leaflet on how to use the applicator is inside the carton. Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or clinic nurse carefully. They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you forget to take Crinone

If you forget to take Crinone If you forget a dose of Crinone, use it as soon as you remember, and then continue on the same schedule as before. Do not use more than the dose recommended by your doctor.

Side effects

TELL YOUR DOCTOR if you do not feel well while taking Crinone.

All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are more serious, most of the time they are not. If you think you have side effects do not stop taking Crinone without first talking to your doctor.

The most common side effects are:

- ◆ cramps, abdominal pain or perineal pain (around the genital and back passage)
- ◆ headache
- ◆ breast enlargement or breast pain
- ◆ feelings of sadness and emotional, decreased sexual drive, sleepiness
- ◆ constipation, nausea
- ◆ passing urine at night

Less common side effects are:

- ◆ bloating, pain
- ◆ dizziness
- ◆ vaginal discharge, itching of the vaginal area, vaginal thrush
- ◆ diarrhoea, vomiting
- ◆ painful sexual intercourse
- ◆ painful joints

Other side effects not listed may happen in some patients. Tell your doctor or clinic nurse if you notice anything that is making you feel unwell.

Storage

- ◆ Crinone should be stored in a cool dry place below 25°C in it's original packaging
- ◆ Do not freeze
- ◆ **DO NOT LEAVE IN THE CAR**
- ◆ Keep this medicine where children cannot reach it
- ◆ Each applicator must be used once only

Disposal

If you have any Crinone that has expired or is left over return it to your clinic or pharmacy.