Mechlorethamine (me klor eth' a meen) is a drug that is used to treat skin lymphoma (mycosis fungoides). It is an ointment that you apply to the skin.

Tell your doctor if you have ever had an unusual or allergic reaction to mechlorethamine before using mechlorethamine ointment.

It is important to apply mechlorethamine ointment exactly as directed by your doctor. Make sure you understand the directions. Do not apply mechlorethamine more often or longer than directed by your doctor.

Mechlorethamine ointment may be used at any time during the day. A convenient time is often after a bath or shower, before going to bed or after getting up in the morning. Make sure your skin is dry before applying the ointment. Do not shower or bathe again for four hours after applying it.

Using the palms of the hands apply mechlorethamine ointment thinly as directed by your doctor. You may be instructed to apply mechlorethamine all over your body or to only certain areas of your body.

Avoid getting mechlorethamine ointment in your eyes, mouth, or nose.

Do not apply mechlorethamine ointment to your genital area unless instructed to do so.

Wash your hands after applying mechlorethamine ointment. Rubber gloves are not usually needed, but may be worn if irritation develops between the fingers.

Avoid licking your fingers or biting your finger nails within 2 hours of applying mechlorethamine ointment unless you have washed your hands thoroughly.

Anyone helping you apply mechlorethamine ointment should wear rubber or plastic gloves.

Place empty container and rubber gloves (if used) in a sealed container such as a coffee tin or wide-mouth plastic jar. Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist about safe disposal.

Discard mechlorethamine ointment if it discolours.

To prevent irritation, apply lightly to thinner skin in your groin, under the breasts, armpits, inside elbows, and behind the knees. If these areas become irritated or sore, wipe the ointment off shortly after applying it. If your hands become irritated or sore between the fingers, use gloves when applying and then apply to the hands, wiping the space between the fingers soon after. This helps prevent irritation in these areas.
● For once daily application: If you **miss a dose** of mechlorethamine ointment, and if it is over 12 hours since your missed dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your usual dosing times.

● It is not known if mechlorethamine ointment may damage sperm or may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. Mechlorethamine ointment may be absorbed through your skin. This risk of absorption is likely very small. It is best to use **birth control** while being treated with mechlorethamine ointment. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breast feed during treatment.

● **Store** mechlorethamine ointment out of the reach of children, at room temperature, away from heat, light, and moisture.

● **Tell** doctors or dentists that you are being treated with mechlorethamine ointment before you receive any treatment from them.

Side effects are listed in the following table in the order in which they may occur. Tips to help manage the side effects are included.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIDE EFFECTS</th>
<th>MANAGEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nausea</strong> does not usually occur with mechlorethamine ointment.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Skin rashes** may sometimes occur days to months after starting mechlorethamine ointment. | • Stop applying the ointment.  
• Call your doctor during office hours. |
| **New areas of mycosis fungoides** patches may sometimes become visible within the first few months after starting mechlorethamine ointment. | Continue applying mechlorethamine ointment to these new areas and mention it at your next visit. |
| Your skin may sometimes become **sore and reddened**, especially on your face, under your arms, under your breasts, in the groin, or between your fingers. | • Stop applying the ointment to those areas until this resolves. This usually takes 2-3 weeks. When you start again, wipe the ointment off those areas shortly after applying.  
• If very irritating, call your doctor during office hours.  
• Otherwise make sure to mention it at your next visit. |
| Your skin may rarely become **dry**. | • Use moisturizers as frequently as necessary.  
• If dryness continues mention it at your next visit. |
### SIDE EFFECTS

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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Your skin may sometimes <strong>darken</strong> after you have used mechlorethamine ointment for a while.</td>
<td>• Your skin will slowly return to normal once you stop using mechlorethamine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hair loss</strong> does not occur with mechlorethamine ointment.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**STOP APPLYING MECHLORETHAMINE OINTMENT AND SEE YOUR DOCTOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (DURING OFFICE HOURS) IF YOU HAVE:**

- Signs of an **allergic reaction** soon after a treatment including hives, skin rash, dizziness, fast heart beat, face swelling, or breathing problems.

**REPORT ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS TO YOUR DOCTOR**