

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use ELOCON Lotion safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for ELOCON Lotion.

ELOCON® (mometasone furoate) Lotion, 0.1% for topical use
Initial U.S. Approval: 1987

-----**RECENT MAJOR CHANGES**-----

Warnings and Precautions

Ophthalmic Adverse Reactions (5.2) 05/2018

-----**INDICATIONS AND USAGE**-----

ELOCON Lotion is a corticosteroid indicated for the relief of the inflammatory and pruritic manifestations of corticosteroid-responsive dermatoses in patients ≥ 12 years of age. (1)

-----**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**-----

- Apply a few drops to the affected skin areas once daily and massage lightly until it disappears. (2)
- Discontinue therapy when control is achieved. (2)
- If no improvement is seen within 2 weeks, reassess diagnosis. (2)
- Do not use with occlusive dressings unless directed by a physician. (2)

-----**DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS**-----

- Lotion, 0.1%. (3)

-----**CONTRAINDICATIONS**-----

ELOCON Lotion is contraindicated in those patients with a history of hypersensitivity to any of the components in the preparation. (4)

-----**WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**-----

- Reversible HPA axis suppression with the potential for glucocorticosteroid insufficiency after withdrawal of treatment, Cushing's syndrome, and hyperglycemia may occur due to systemic absorption. Patients applying a topical steroid to a large surface area or to areas under occlusion should be evaluated periodically for evidence of HPA axis suppression. Modify use should HPA axis suppression develop. (5.1, 8.4)
- Pediatric patients may be more susceptible to systemic toxicity. (5.1, 8.4)
- May increase the risk of cataracts and glaucoma. If visual symptoms occur, consider referral to an ophthalmologist. (5.2)

-----**ADVERSE REACTIONS**-----

Most common adverse reactions included are acneiform reaction, burning, itching and folliculitis. (6)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc., at 1-877-888-4231 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and FDA-approved patient labeling.

Revised: 05/2018

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FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

ELOCON® Lotion is a corticosteroid indicated for the relief of the inflammatory and pruritic manifestations of corticosteroid-responsive dermatoses in patients 12 years of age or older.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Apply a few drops of ELOCON Lotion to the affected skin areas once daily and massage lightly until it disappears.

Therapy should be discontinued when control is achieved. If no improvement is seen within 2 weeks, reassessment of diagnosis may be necessary [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1) and Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].

Do not use ELOCON Lotion with occlusive dressings unless directed by a physician. Do not apply ELOCON Lotion in the diaper area if the patient requires diapers or plastic pants, as these garments constitute occlusive dressing.

ELOCON Lotion is for topical use only. It is not for oral, ophthalmic, or intravaginal use.

Avoid use on the face, groin, or axillae. Avoid contact with eyes. Wash hands after each application.

3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Lotion, 0.1%. Each gram of ELOCON Lotion contains 1 mg of mometasone furoate in a colorless, clear to translucent lotion base.

4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

ELOCON Lotion is contraindicated in those patients with a history of hypersensitivity to any of the components in the preparation.

5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

5.1 Effects on Endocrine System

Systemic absorption of topical corticosteroids can produce reversible hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis suppression with the potential for glucocorticosteroid insufficiency. This may occur during treatment or after withdrawal of treatment. Manifestations of Cushing's syndrome, hyperglycemia, and glucosuria can also be produced in some patients by systemic absorption of topical corticosteroids while on treatment. Factors that predispose a patient using a topical corticosteroid to HPA axis suppression include the use of high potency steroids, large treatment surface areas, prolonged use, use of occlusive dressing, altered skin barrier, liver failure and young age.

Because of the potential for systemic absorption, use of topical corticosteroids may require that patients be periodically evaluated for HPA axis suppression. This may be done by using the adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH) stimulation test.

In a study evaluating the effects of mometasone furoate lotion on the HPA axis, 15 mL were applied without occlusion twice daily (30 mL per day) for 7 days to 4 adult subjects with scalp and body psoriasis. At the end of treatment, the plasma cortisol levels for each of the 4 subjects remained within the normal range and changed little from baseline.

If HPA axis suppression is documented, an attempt should be made to gradually withdraw the drug, to reduce the frequency of application, or to substitute a less potent corticosteroid. Recovery of HPA axis function is generally prompt upon discontinuation of topical corticosteroids. Infrequently, signs and symptoms of glucocorticosteroid insufficiency may occur, requiring supplemental systemic corticosteroids.

Pediatric patients may be more susceptible to systemic toxicity from equivalent doses due to their larger skin surface to body mass ratios [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].

5.2 Ophthalmic Adverse Reactions

Use of topical corticosteroids may increase the risk of posterior subcapsular cataracts and glaucoma. Cataracts and glaucoma have been reported in postmarketing experience with the use of topical corticosteroid products, including the topical mometasone products [see *Adverse Reactions (6.2)*].

Avoid contact of ELOCON Lotion with eyes. Advise patients to report any visual symptoms and consider referral to an ophthalmologist for evaluation.

5.3 Allergic Contact Dermatitis

If irritation develops, ELOCON Lotion should be discontinued and appropriate therapy instituted. Allergic contact dermatitis with corticosteroids is usually diagnosed by observing failure to heal rather than noting a clinical exacerbation. Such an observation should be corroborated with appropriate diagnostic patch testing.

5.4 Concomitant Skin Infections

If concomitant skin infections are present or develop, an appropriate antifungal or antibacterial agent should be used. If a favorable response does not occur promptly, use of ELOCON Lotion should be discontinued until the infection has been adequately controlled.

6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

6.1 Clinical Trials Experience

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in clinical practice.

In clinical trials involving 209 subjects, the incidence of adverse reactions associated with the use of ELOCON Lotion was 3%. Reported reactions included acneiform reaction, 2; burning, 4; and itching, 1. In an irritation/sensitization study involving 156 normal subjects, the incidence of folliculitis was 3% (4 subjects).

The following adverse reactions were reported to be possibly or probably related to treatment with ELOCON Lotion during a clinical trial in 14% of 65 pediatric subjects 6 months to 2 years of age: decreased glucocorticoid levels, 4; paresthesia, 2; dry mouth, 1; an unspecified endocrine disorder, 1; pruritus, 1; and an unspecified skin disorder, 1. The following signs of skin atrophy were also observed among 65 subjects treated with ELOCON Lotion in a clinical trial: shininess, 4; telangiectasia, 2; loss of elasticity, 2; and loss of normal skin markings, 3.

6.2 Postmarketing Experience

Because adverse reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

Postmarketing reports for local adverse reactions to topical corticosteroids include irritation, dryness, folliculitis, hypertrichosis, acneiform eruptions, hypopigmentation, perioral dermatitis, allergic contact dermatitis, secondary infection, skin atrophy, striae, and miliaria. These adverse reactions may occur more frequently with the use of occlusive dressings.

Postmarketing reports for ophthalmic adverse reactions to topical corticosteroids include blurred vision, cataracts, glaucoma, increased intraocular pressure, and central serous chorioretinopathy.

7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

No drug-drug interaction studies have been conducted with ELOCON Lotion.

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Teratogenic Effects Pregnancy Category C:

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Therefore, ELOCON Lotion should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

Corticosteroids have been shown to be teratogenic in laboratory animals when administered systemically at relatively low dosage levels. Some corticosteroids have been shown to be teratogenic after dermal application in laboratory animals.

When administered to pregnant rats, rabbits, and mice, mometasone furoate increased fetal malformations. The doses that produced malformations also decreased fetal growth, as measured by lower fetal weights and/or delayed ossification. Mometasone furoate also caused dystocia and related complications when administered to rats during the end of pregnancy.

In mice, mometasone furoate caused cleft palate at subcutaneous doses of 60 mcg/kg and above. Fetal survival was reduced at 180 mcg/kg. No toxicity was observed at 20 mcg/kg. (Doses of 20, 60, and 180 mcg/kg in the mouse are approximately 0.01, 0.02, and 0.05 times the estimated maximum clinical topical dose from ELOCON Lotion on a mcg/m² basis.)

In rats, mometasone furoate produced umbilical hernias at topical doses of 600 mcg/kg and above. A dose of 300 mcg/kg produced delays in ossification, but no malformations. (Doses of 300 and 600 mcg/kg in the rat are approximately 0.2 and 0.4 times the estimated maximum clinical topical dose from ELOCON Lotion on a mcg/m² basis.)

In rabbits, mometasone furoate caused multiple malformations (e.g., flexed front paws, gallbladder agenesis, umbilical hernia, hydrocephaly) at topical doses of 150 mcg/kg and above (approximately 0.2 times the estimated maximum clinical topical dose from ELOCON Lotion on a mcg/m² basis). In an oral study, mometasone furoate increased resorptions and caused cleft palate and/or head malformations (hydrocephaly and domed head) at 700 mcg/kg. At 2800 mcg/kg most litters were aborted or resorbed. No toxicity was observed at 140 mcg/kg. (Doses at 140, 700, and 2800 mcg/kg in the rabbit are approximately 0.2, 0.9, and 3.6 times the estimated maximum clinical topical dose from ELOCON Lotion on a mcg/m² basis.)

When rats received subcutaneous doses of mometasone furoate throughout pregnancy or during the later stages of pregnancy, 15 mcg/kg caused prolonged and difficult labor and reduced the number of live births, birth weight, and early pup survival. Similar effects were not observed at 7.5 mcg/kg. (Doses of 7.5 and 15 mcg/kg in the rat are approximately 0.005 and 0.01 times the estimated maximum clinical topical dose from ELOCON Lotion on a mcg/m² basis.)

8.3 Nursing Mothers

Systemically administered corticosteroids appear in human milk and could suppress growth, interfere with endogenous corticosteroid production, or cause other untoward effects. It is not known whether topical administration of corticosteroids could result in sufficient systemic absorption to produce detectable quantities in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when ELOCON Lotion is administered to a nursing woman.

8.4 Pediatric Use

Since safety and efficacy of ELOCON Lotion have not been established in pediatric patients below 12 years of age, its use in this age group is not recommended.

ELOCON Lotion caused HPA axis suppression in approximately 29% of pediatric subjects ages 6 to 23 months, who showed normal adrenal function by Cortrosyn test before starting treatment, and were treated for approximately 3 weeks over a mean body surface area of 40% (range 16%-90%). The criteria for suppression were: basal cortisol level of ≤ 5 mcg/dL, 30-minute post-stimulation level of ≤ 18 mcg/dL, or an increase of < 7 mcg/dL. Follow-up testing 2 to 4 weeks after stopping treatment, available for 8 of the subjects, demonstrated suppressed HPA axis function in 1 subject, using these same criteria. Long-term use of topical corticosteroids has not been studied in this population [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.2)*].

Because of a higher ratio of skin surface area to body mass, pediatric patients are at a greater risk than adults of HPA axis suppression and Cushing's syndrome when they are treated with topical corticosteroids. They are, therefore, also at greater risk of adrenal insufficiency during and/or after withdrawal of treatment. Pediatric patients may be more susceptible than adults to skin atrophy, including striae, when they are treated with topical corticosteroids. Pediatric patients applying topical corticosteroids to greater than 20% of body surface are at higher risk of HPA axis suppression.

HPA axis suppression, Cushing's syndrome, linear growth retardation, delayed weight gain, and intracranial hypertension have been reported in pediatric patients receiving topical corticosteroids. Manifestations of adrenal suppression in children include low plasma cortisol levels and absence of response to ACTH stimulation. Manifestations of intracranial hypertension include bulging fontanelles, headaches, and bilateral papilledema.

ELOCON Lotion should not be used in the treatment of diaper dermatitis.

8.5 Geriatric Use

Clinical trials of ELOCON Lotion did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger subjects. Other reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the elderly and younger patients. In general, dose selection for an elderly patient should be cautious usually starting at the low end of the dosing range.

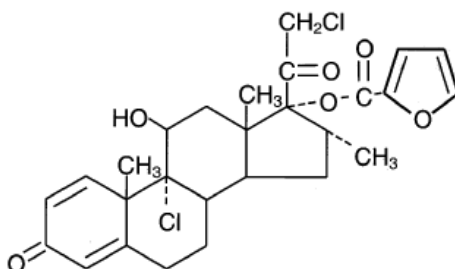
10 OVERDOSAGE

Topically applied ELOCON Lotion can be absorbed in sufficient amounts to produce systemic effects [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*].

11 DESCRIPTION

ELOCON (mometasone furoate) Lotion, 0.1% contains mometasone furoate for topical use. Mometasone furoate is a synthetic corticosteroid with anti-inflammatory activity.

Chemically, mometasone furoate is 9 α , 21-dichloro-11 β ,17-dihydroxy-16 α -methylpregna-1,4-diene-3,20-dione 17-(2-furoate), with the empirical formula C₂₇H₃₀Cl₂O₆, a molecular weight of 521.4 and the following structural formula:



Mometasone furoate is a white to off-white powder practically insoluble in water, slightly soluble in octanol, and moderately soluble in ethyl alcohol.

Each gram of ELOCON Lotion, 0.1% contains 1 mg mometasone furoate in a colorless, clear to translucent lotion base of hydroxypropyl cellulose, isopropyl alcohol (40%), propylene glycol, purified water and sodium phosphate monobasic monohydrate. May also contain phosphoric acid used to adjust the pH to approximately 4.5.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Like other topical corticosteroids, mometasone furoate has anti-inflammatory, antipruritic, and vasoconstrictive properties. The mechanism of the anti-inflammatory activity of the topical steroids, in general, is unclear. However, corticosteroids are thought to act by the induction of phospholipase A₂ inhibitory proteins, collectively called lipocortins. It is postulated that these proteins control the biosynthesis of potent mediators of inflammation such as prostaglandins and leukotrienes by inhibiting the release of their common precursor arachidonic acid. Arachidonic acid is released from membrane phospholipids by phospholipase A₂.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

Studies performed with ELOCON Lotion indicate that it is in the medium range of potency as compared with other topical corticosteroids.

In a study evaluating the effects of mometasone furoate lotion on the HPA axis, 15 mL were applied without occlusion twice daily (30 mL per day) for 7 days to 4 adult subjects with scalp and body psoriasis. At the end of treatment, the plasma cortisol levels for each of the 4 subjects remained within the normal range and changed little from baseline [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)].

Sixty-five pediatric subjects ages 6 to 23 months, with atopic dermatitis, were enrolled in an open-label, HPA axis safety trial. ELOCON Lotion was applied once daily for approximately 3 weeks over a mean body surface area of 40% (range 16%-90%). In approximately 29% of subjects who showed normal adrenal function by Cortrosyn test before starting treatment, adrenal suppression was observed at the end of treatment with ELOCON Lotion. The criteria for suppression were: basal cortisol level of ≤ 5 mcg/dL, 30-

minute post-stimulation level of ≤ 18 mcg/dL, or an increase of < 7 mcg/dL. Follow-up testing 2 to 4 weeks after stopping treatment, available for 8 of the subjects, demonstrated suppressed HPA axis function in 1 subject, using these same criteria [see *Use in Specific Populations (8.4)*].

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

The extent of percutaneous absorption of topical corticosteroids is determined by many factors including the vehicle and the integrity of the epidermal barrier. Studies in humans indicate that approximately 0.7% of the applied dose of ELOCON Ointment enters the circulation after 8 hours of contact on normal skin without occlusion. A similar minimal degree of absorption of the corticosteroid from the lotion formulation would be anticipated. Inflammation and/or other disease processes in the skin may increase percutaneous absorption.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Long-term animal studies have not been performed to evaluate the carcinogenic potential of ELOCON Lotion. Long-term carcinogenicity studies of mometasone furoate were conducted by the inhalation route in rats and mice. In a 2-year carcinogenicity study in Sprague Dawley rats, mometasone furoate demonstrated no statistically significant increase of tumors at inhalation doses up to 67 mcg/kg (approximately 0.04 times the estimated maximum clinical topical dose from ELOCON Lotion on a mcg/m² basis). In a 19-month carcinogenicity study in Swiss CD-1 mice, mometasone furoate demonstrated no statistically significant increase in the incidence of tumors at inhalation doses up to 160 mcg/kg (approximately 0.05 times the estimated maximum clinical topical dose from ELOCON Lotion on a mcg/m² basis).

Mometasone furoate increased chromosomal aberrations in an *in vitro* Chinese hamster ovary cell assay, but did not increase chromosomal aberrations in an *in vitro* Chinese hamster lung cell assay. Mometasone furoate was not mutagenic in the Ames test or mouse lymphoma assay, and was not clastogenic in an *in vivo* mouse micronucleus assay, a rat bone marrow chromosomal aberration assay, or a mouse male germ-cell chromosomal aberration assay. Mometasone furoate also did not induce unscheduled DNA synthesis *in vivo* in rat hepatocytes.

In reproductive studies in rats, impairment of fertility was not produced in male or female rats by subcutaneous doses up to 15 mcg/kg (approximately 0.01 times the estimated maximum clinical topical dose from ELOCON Lotion on a mcg/m² basis).

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

The safety and efficacy of ELOCON Lotion, 0.1% for the treatment of corticosteroid-responsive dermatoses was demonstrated in two vehicle-controlled trials, one in scalp psoriasis and one in seborrheic dermatitis. A total of 405 subjects (age range: 12-95 years) received ELOCON Lotion (205 subjects) or the vehicle lotion applied once daily for 21 days.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

ELOCON Lotion is colorless, clear to translucent and supplied in 30-mL (27.5 gram) (NDC 0085-0854-01) and 60-mL (55 gram) (NDC 0085-0854-02) bottles; boxes of one.

Store ELOCON Lotion, 0.1% at 25°C (77°F); excursions permitted to 15-30°C (59-86°F) [see USP Controlled Room Temperature].

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Advise the patient to read the FDA-approved patient labeling (Patient Information). Inform patients of the following:

- Use ELOCON Lotion as directed by the physician. It is for external use only.
- Avoid contact with the eyes.
- Advise patients to report any visual symptoms to their healthcare providers.
- Do not use ELOCON Lotion on the face, underarms, or groin areas.
- Do not use ELOCON Lotion for any disorder other than that for which it was prescribed.
- Do not bandage or otherwise cover or wrap the treated skin area so as to be occlusive, unless directed by the physician.

**This label may not be the latest approved by FDA.
For current labeling information, please visit <https://www.fda.gov/drugsatfda>**

- Report any signs of local adverse reactions to the physician.
- Advise patients not to use ELOCON Lotion in the treatment of diaper dermatitis. Do not apply ELOCON Lotion in the diaper area, as diapers or plastic pants may constitute occlusive dressing.
- Discontinue therapy when control is achieved. If no improvement is seen within 2 weeks, contact the physician.
- Do not use other corticosteroid-containing products with ELOCON Lotion without first consulting with the physician.

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For patent information: www.merck.com/product/patent/home.html

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Patient Information
ELOCON® (El-oh-con)
(mometasone furoate) Lotion, 0.1%

Important information: ELOCON Lotion is for use on skin only. Do not use ELOCON Lotion in your eyes, mouth, or vagina.

What is ELOCON Lotion?

- ELOCON Lotion is a prescription medicine used on the skin (topical) for the relief of redness, swelling, heat, pain (inflammation) and itching, caused by certain skin problems in people 12 years of age and older.
- It is not known if ELOCON Lotion is safe and effective for use in children under 12 years of age.
- ELOCON Lotion should not be used in children under 12 years of age.

Do not use ELOCON Lotion if you are allergic to mometasone furoate or any of the ingredients in ELOCON Lotion. See the end of this leaflet for a complete list of ingredients in ELOCON Lotion.

Before using ELOCON Lotion, tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including if you:

- have a skin infection at the site to be treated. You may also need medicine to treat the skin infection.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if ELOCON Lotion will harm your unborn baby.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if ELOCON Lotion passes into your breast milk.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Especially tell your healthcare provider if you take other corticosteroid medicines by mouth or use other products on your skin or scalp that contain corticosteroids.

How should I use ELOCON Lotion?

- Use ELOCON Lotion exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to use it.
- Apply a few drops of ELOCON Lotion to the affected skin area 1 time each day and rub it in lightly until it disappears.
- Use ELOCON Lotion until the affected skin area is improved. Tell your healthcare provider if the treated skin area does not get better after 2 weeks of treatment.
- Do not bandage, cover, or wrap the treated skin area unless your healthcare provider tells you to.
- ELOCON Lotion should not be used to treat diaper rash or redness. Avoid using ELOCON Lotion in the diaper area if wearing diapers or plastic pants.
- Avoid using ELOCON Lotion on the face, groin, or underarms (armpits).
- Wash your hands after applying ELOCON Lotion.

What are the possible side effects of ELOCON Lotion?

ELOCON Lotion may cause serious side effects, including:

- **ELOCON Lotion can pass through your skin.** Too much ELOCON Lotion passing through your skin can cause your adrenal glands to stop working properly. Your healthcare provider may do blood tests to check for adrenal gland problems.
- **Vision problems.** Topical corticosteroids may increase your chance of developing vision problems such as cataract and glaucoma. Tell your healthcare provider if you develop blurred vision or other vision problems during treatment with ELOCON Lotion.
- **Skin problems.** Skin problems may happen during treatment with ELOCON Lotion, including allergic reactions (contact dermatitis) and skin infections at the treatment site. Stop using ELOCON Lotion and tell your healthcare provider if you develop any skin reactions such as pain, tenderness, swelling, or problems healing during treatment with ELOCON Lotion.

The most common side effects of ELOCON Lotion include burning, itching, and inflammation of the hair follicle (folliculitis).

These are not all the possible side effects of ELOCON Lotion.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store ELOCON Lotion?

- Store ELOCON Lotion at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).
- **Keep ELOCON Lotion and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

General information about the safe and effective use of ELOCON Lotion.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information leaflet. Do not use ELOCON Lotion for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give ELOCON Lotion to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about ELOCON Lotion that is written for health professionals.

What are the ingredients in ELOCON Lotion?

Active ingredient: mometasone furoate

Inactive ingredients: hydroxypropyl cellulose, isopropyl alcohol (40%), propylene glycol, purified water and sodium phosphate monobasic monohydrate. May also contain phosphoric acid used to adjust the pH to approximately 4.5.

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This Patient Information has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

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