

This information was up to date at the time of release to the Heads of Midwifery.

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Updating arrangements for the formulary should be decided upon and implemented at a local level.

<b>Anusol® - cream and suppository</b>	
<b>Legal status</b> (GSL, P or POM on exemption list, or PGD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GSL - midwife may supply</li> </ul>
<b>Patient group</b>	Antenatal and postnatal women until discharged from midwifery care.
<b>Clinical indication</b>	<p>First line treatment for symptomatic relief from haemorrhoids and anal fissures.</p> <p>The suppositories are better for internal haemorrhoids.</p>
<b>Pharmacology</b> (Onset and duration of action where appropriate)	Anusol® relieves symptoms by soothing, astringent and mild antiseptic effects. It is also an emollient. The bismuth oxide and zinc oxide are astringent and antiseptic. Zinc oxide also decreases friction and discourages bacterial growth. Balsam Peru is a very mild antiseptic. It is also thought to promote epithelial cell growth.
<b>Pharmaceutical form, strength, route of administration</b>	<p>100g cream contains: Bismuth Oxide 2.14g, Balsam Peru 1.8g, Zinc Oxide 10.75g For topical administration around the anus or rectal administration.</p> <p>Each 2.8g suppository contains: Bismuth subgallate BP 59mg, Bismuth oxide 24mg, Balsam Peru 49mg, Zinc oxide 296mg For rectal administration.</p>
<b>Dose, frequency and maximum number of doses or period of time for administration or supply</b>	<p>Cream: thoroughly cleanse and dry the affected area and apply morning and night, and after each evacuation. The cream can be used as a lubricant with the suppositories.</p> <p>Suppositories: one inserted into the anus morning and night and after each evacuation.</p> <p>During admission or at discharge or as an outpatient one tube of cream and one box of suppositories may be supplied on each occasion.</p>
<b>Contra-indications/exclusion criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>known hypersensitivity to any component of the medicine</li> <li>severe haemorrhoids or anal fissure as this product is unlikely to be effective</li> </ul>
<b>Cautions and action that will be taken if a caution applies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nil</li> <li>check for and document any allergies</li> <li>check and document past medical and drug history and current medication to ascertain potential for overdose</li> <li>if a caution applies consult with a doctor</li> <li>document consultation in maternity record</li> </ul>

## Anusol® - cream and suppository

<b>Medicine interactions and action that will be taken if a patient is taking a medicine that may interact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If there is a clinically significant drug interaction, consult with a doctor before administration or supply</li> <li>▪ document consultation in maternity record</li> <li>▪ refer to current BNF for latest information on interactions</li> </ul>
<b>Potential adverse reactions and side effects including actions to be taken if adverse medicine reaction is suspected</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>rarely, sensitivity reactions</i></li> <li>▪ <i>patients may occasionally experience transient burning on application, especially if the anoderm is not intact</i></li>   <li>▪ <i>on labour</i> <span style="float: right;"><i>Nil</i></span></li> <li>▪ <i>on the neonate</i> <span style="float: right;"><i>Nil</i></span></li> <li>▪ <i>on breast feeding</i> <span style="float: right;"><i>Nil</i></span></li>   <li>▪ <i>if a serious adverse reaction is suspected please report to the MHRA Yellow Card Scheme <a href="http://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/">http://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/</a></i></li> </ul>
<b>Overdose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ unlikely to occur via the rectal route but oral ingestion requires treatment</li> <li>▪ symptoms such as fever, nausea, vomiting, stomach cramps and diarrhoea may develop after 3 to 12 hours</li> <li>▪ immediate assessment/treatment is essential - refer to medical staff</li> <li>▪ manage in accordance with established treatment guidelines or see BNF overdose section</li> <li>▪ for further advice contact National Poisons Centre 0344 892 0111</li> </ul>
<b>Action if patient declines</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ refer to authorised prescriber or doctor</li> <li>▪ document in maternity record</li> </ul>
<b>Additional advice and information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ advise to contact midwife/GP if condition worsens or symptoms persist</li> <li>▪ give the manufacturer's patient information leaflet to the woman with advice on how to avoid constipation</li> </ul>
<b>Patient monitoring arrangements during and after treatment and follow-up required</b>	<p>If no improvement after 3 days of treatment discuss second line of treatment.</p>
<b>Particular storage requirements</b>	<p>-</p>
<b>References</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Summary of Product Characteristics Anusol® cream. Church &amp; Dwight UK Ltd. Revision of text 13.4.2018. Accessed 23.12.2019 <a href="https://www.medicines.org.uk/">https://www.medicines.org.uk/</a></li> <li>2. Summary of Product Characteristics Anusol® suppositories. Church &amp; Dwight UK Ltd. Revision of text 13.4.2018. Accessed 23.12.2019 <a href="https://www.medicines.org.uk/">https://www.medicines.org.uk/</a></li> <li>3. <a href="http://www.bnf.org">http://www.bnf.org</a></li> </ol>	