



**The British Association of Dermatologists' information on topical corticosteroids –  
established and alternative proprietary names, potency, and discontinuation  
JUNE 2015**

The supply shortage of topical corticosteroids was discussed by BAD Officers and the Executive Committee; the consensus was that the Clinical Standards Unit and Therapy & Guidelines sub-committee produce a guidance sheet on the wider range of products available on the a market for the benefit of dermatologists, GPs and nurse prescribers who may be having difficulties in identifying and sourcing alternative products or are unfamiliar with certain alternatives in terms of their potency. With reproduction permission from the British National Formulary (BNF), the following topical corticosteroid preparations are featured in the BNF:

Potency of a topical corticosteroid preparation is a result of the formulation as well as the corticosteroid. Therefore, proprietary names are shown below.	
Mild	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hydrocortisone 0.1-2.5%</li> <li>• Dioderm (hydrocortisone 0.1%)</li> <li>• Mildison (hydrocortisone 0.1%)</li> <li>• Synalar 1 in 10 dilution (fluocinolone acetonide 0.0025%)</li> </ul>
	<p>With antimicrobials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canesten HC (hydrocortisone 1%, clotrimazole 1%)</li> <li>• Daktacort (hydrocortisone 1%, miconazole nitrate 2%)</li> <li>• <b>Ecanocort*</b> (econazole 1%, hydrocortisone 1%)</li> <li>• Fucidin H (hydrocortisone acetate 1%, fusidic acid 2%)</li> <li>• Nystaform-HC cream (hydrocortisone 0.5%, nystatin 100 000 units/g, chlorhexidine acetate 1%)</li> <li>• Nystaform-HC ointment (hydrocortisone 1%, nystatin 100 000 units/g, chlorhexidine acetate 1%)</li> <li>• <b>Terra-Cortril*</b> (hydrocortisone 1%, oxytetracycline (as hydrochloride) 3%)</li> <li>• <b>Timodine*</b> (hydrocortisone 0.5%, nystatin 100 000 units/g, benzalkonium chloride solution 0.2%, dimeticone '350' 10%)</li> </ul>

Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Betnovate-RD</b> (betamethasone (as valerate) 0.025%)</li> <li>• <b>Eumovate</b> (clobetasone butyrate 0.05%)</li> <li>• <b>Haelan</b> (fludroxycortide 0.0125%)</li> <li>• <b>Modrasone*</b> (alclometasone dipropionate 0.05%)</li> <li>• <b>Synalar 1 in 4 dilution</b> (fluocinolone acetonide 0.00625%)</li> <li>• <b>Ultralanum Plain</b> (fluocortolone caproate 0.25%, fluocortolone pivalate 0.25%)</li> </ul>
	<p>Moderate with antimicrobials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Trimovate</b> (clobetasone butyrate 0.05%, oxytetracycline 3% (as calcium salt), nystatin 100 000 units/g)</li> </ul>
	<p>Moderate with urea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Alphaderm</b> (hydrocortisone 1%, urea 10%)</li> </ul>
Potent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Beclometasone dipropionate 0.025%</b></li> <li>• <b>Betamethasone valerate 0.1%</b></li> <li>• <b>Betacap</b> (betamethasone (as valerate) 0.1%)</li> <li>• <b>Betesil*</b> (betamethasone (as valerate) 2.25 mg)</li> <li>• <b>Bettamousse</b> (betamethasone valerate 0.12%)</li> <li>• <b>Betnovate*</b> (betamethasone (as valerate) 0.1%)</li> <li>• <b>Cutivate*</b> cream (fluticasone propionate 0.05%)</li> <li>• <b>Cutivate*</b> ointment (fluticasone propionate 0.005%)</li> <li>• <b>Diprosone</b> (betamethasone (as dipropionate) 0.05%)</li> <li>• <b>Elocon</b> (mometasone furoate 0.1%)</li> <li>• <b>Hydrocortisone butyrate 0.1%</b></li> <li>• <b>Locoid*</b> (hydrocortisone butyrate 0.1%)</li> <li>• <b>Locoid Crelo*</b> (hydrocortisone butyrate 0.1% in a water-miscible basis)</li> <li>• <b>Metosyn</b> (fluocinonide 0.05%)</li> <li>• <b>Mometasone furoate 0.1%</b></li> <li>• <b>Nerisone</b> (diflucortolone valerate 0.1%)</li> <li>• <b>Synalar</b> (fluocinolone acetonide 0.025%)</li> </ul>

	<p>Potent with antimicrobials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aureocort (triamcinolone acetonide 0.1%, chlortetracycline hydrochloride 3%)</li> <li>• Betamethasone 0.1% (as valerate) and clioquinol 3%</li> <li>• Betamethasone 0.1% (as valerate) and neomycin 0.5%</li> <li>• <b>Fucibet*</b> (betamethasone (as valerate) 0.1%, fusidic acid 2%)</li> <li>• Lotriderm (betamethasone dipropionate 0.064% (≡ betamethasone 0.05%), clotrimazole 1%)</li> <li>• Synalar C (fluocinolone acetonide 0.025%, clioquinol 3%)</li> <li>• Synalar N (fluocinolone acetonide 0.025%, neomycin sulfate 0.5%)</li> </ul>
	<p>Potent with salicylic acid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diprosalic (betamethasone (as dipropionate) 0.05%, salicylic acid 3%)</li> </ul>
Very potent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarelux (clobetasol propionate 0.05%)</li> <li>• <b>Dermovate*</b> (clobetasol propionate 0.05%)</li> <li>• Etrivex (clobetasol propionate 0.05%)</li> <li>• Nerisone Forte (diflucortolone valerate 0.3%)</li> </ul>
	<p>Very potent with antimicrobials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clobetasol 0.05% with neomycin 0.5% and nystatin 100 000 units/g</li> </ul>

The BNF relies on correspondence from pharmaceutical companies alerting them to discontinued products, however, information is not always provided. Therefore, the BNF also uses the Dictionary of Medicines and Devices (DM+D) browser to keep their product information up-to-date. The data on this browser is supplied by the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA), Prescription Services and is updated weekly. <http://dmd.medicines.org.uk/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=1>

\* All preparations may not be available