

Testosterone Gel, Topical

What are other names for this medicine?

Generic and brand names: testosterone gel, topical; AndroGel 1%

What is this medicine used for?

This medicine is applied to the skin to treat a lack of the hormone testosterone in males. It is used to stimulate growth of the male sex organs in adolescent males. Testosterone also controls other male characteristics such as hair growth.

What should my health care provider know before I take this medicine?

Men should not use this medicine if they have:

- breast cancer
- prostate cancer
- heart disease
- liver disease
- kidney disease.

How do I use it?

Read and follow the instruction sheet that comes in the medicine package.

Squeeze the contents of one packet into the palm of your hand. Put it on clean, dry, unbroken skin on your upper arms or abdomen. Allow the treated areas to dry before you get dressed. Use the gel once each day. It is best to use it in the morning.

Do not apply the gel to your sex organs.

Wash your hands with lots of soap and water after applying this medicine.

After applying this medicine, wait 5 to 6 hours before showering, bathing, or swimming.

Dispose of the empty packet safely away from children or pets.

What should I watch out for?

Women should not use this medicine. Pregnant women must avoid skin contact with this medicine. It can harm the infant. If a pregnant woman does come in contact with the gel in any way, wash the area with lots of soap and water.

To protect others from skin to skin contact with this medicine, cover the area where you apply it with clothing. If another person comes in contact with this medicine, wash the area with lots of soap and water as soon as possible.

You may need to have blood tests regularly to see how this medicine affects you. Keep all appointments for these tests.

Men may develop enlarged breasts during treatment with this medicine. If this occurs, contact your health care provider right away.

What are the possible side effects?

Along with its needed effects, your medicine may cause some unwanted side effects. Some side effects may be very serious. Some side effects may go away as your body adjusts to the medicine. Tell your health care provider if you have any side effects that continue or get worse.

Serious (report these to your health care provider right away): Too frequent or prolonged erections, nausea vomiting, changes in skin color, ankle swelling, breathing problems, especially while sleeping.

Other: Anxiety, discolored hair, dizziness, dry skin, acne, problem urinating, swelling of hands or feet, sweating.

Ask your pharmacist for the best way to dispose of outdated medicine or medicine you have not used. Do not throw medicine in the trash.

Keep all medicines out of the reach of children.

Do not share medicines with other people.