

## Consumer Information Leaflet



### Miconazole Nitrate Vaginal Cream (2%) VAGINAL ANTIFUNGAL

#### Cures Most Vaginal Yeast Infections and Relieves Associated External Itching and Irritation

##### Why should I use MONISTAT® 7 Vaginal Cream?

MONISTAT® 7 Vaginal Cream contains a 2% miconazole nitrate cream that cures most vaginal yeast infections and can be used for relief of itching and irritation from the skin outside the vagina (vulva) due to a yeast infection. **Do not use MONISTAT® 7 Vaginal Cream if this is the first time you have vaginal discharge, itching, burning and discomfort. See your doctor or health professional first to find out the cause of your symptoms.** If a doctor has told you in the past that you had a vaginal yeast infection and you have the same symptoms now (such as vaginal discharge, itching or burning), then MONISTAT® 7 Vaginal Cream may work for you.

##### What is a vaginal yeast infection?

A vaginal yeast infection is a common condition caused by an overgrowth of yeast (Candida) that may normally live in the vagina. Your doctor may call this infection "monilia" or "candidiasis." Some women may have a yeast infection in the skin outside of the vagina (vulva) at the same time that they have a vaginal infection.

##### Who can get a vaginal yeast infection?

You can get a vaginal yeast infection at any age. It is most common during the childbearing years. Women who are pregnant or diabetic, taking antibiotics, birth control pills or steroids, or who have a weakened immune system are more likely to get repeated yeast infections that may not clear up even with proper treatment.

Some medical conditions can weaken the body's normal ability to fight infection. One of the most serious of these conditions is infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV - the virus that causes AIDS). The HIV virus causes the body to be more likely to get infections, including vaginal yeast infections that may not clear up easily with proper treatment. If you may have been exposed to HIV and got repeated vaginal yeast infections, you should see your doctor right away. For more information on HIV infection, please contact your doctor or the CDC National AIDS HOTLINE (the CDC phone number is: 1-800-232-4636 (English and Spanish), or 1-888-232-6348 (hearing impaired, TDD)).

##### How can I tell if I have a vaginal yeast infection?

When you have a vaginal yeast infection, you may have one or more of the following symptoms:

- vaginal itching
- vaginal discharge that may be thick, white, and lumpy like cottage cheese
- vaginal soreness, irritation, or burning
- rash or redness of the skin outside the vagina (vulva)
- burning on urination
- painful vaginal intercourse (sex)

**Note: Vaginal yeast infections DO NOT cause fever, chills, lower abdominal, back or shoulder pain, foul-smelling vaginal discharge, or a missed period. These are signs of a sexually transmitted disease (STD) or a tubal pregnancy. If you have these symptoms, call your doctor right away.**

##### What are other causes of a vaginal discharge?

It is normal to have a small amount of vaginal discharge at certain times of the month. This normal discharge may be clear or slightly white and does not cause itching, pain or a foul odor.

The most common cause of an abnormal vaginal discharge is an infection. These infections include bacterial vaginosis (BV), trichomoniasis (trich), gonorrhea (GC) and/or chlamydia. All of these may be transmitted sexually and are called sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). If you have more questions about sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) call the CDC STD Hotline at 1-800-227-8922.

Although many of the infections mentioned above can cause symptoms similar to a vaginal yeast infection (vaginal discharge, irritation and itching), their diagnosis must be made by a doctor so that proper treatment can be given.

If these infections are not properly treated or if proper treatment is delayed, serious problems, such as pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) may result, which may prevent you from having children in the future. If you are pregnant and do not

get the proper treatment, the infection may be passed to your baby before or during delivery and may cause your baby to have permanent damage. If you have multiple sex partners or a new sex partner, you should also ask a doctor before use to make sure you do not have an STD.

##### Why do women get repeated vaginal yeast infections?

Women may get repeated vaginal yeast infections that may not clear up easily with proper treatment. Listed below are some of the causes of repeated yeast infections:

- hormonal changes occurring a few days before the monthly period
- use of some birth control pills
- pregnancy
- diabetes ("sugar" or "high blood sugar")
- clothing - wearing tight layers or moist clothing in the genital area
- weakened immune system - some drugs (such as chemotherapy or steroids) and medical conditions can weaken the body's normal ability to fight infection. One of the most serious of these conditions is infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV - the virus that causes AIDS). Infection with HIV causes the person to be more likely to get infections, including vaginal yeast infections.

If you get vaginal yeast infections often (such as once a month or 3 in 6 months), you should talk to a doctor.

##### Are vaginal yeast infections sexually transmitted?

Vaginal yeast infections are usually not spread by having intercourse (sex). However, if you get a rash, itching or dis comfort in his genital area, he should contact a doctor to find out the cause of his symptoms and tell the doctor that you are treating your vaginal yeast infection with MONISTAT® 7 Vaginal Cream.

##### How can I prevent repeated vaginal yeast infections?

To lower your chances of getting another yeast infection:

- Try to keep the genital area cool and dry. Yeast grows well in warm, moist areas.

The following suggestions may be helpful:

- (1) Wear cotton underwear and loose-fitting clothes.
- (2) Change out of damp clothes or a wet bathing suit as soon as possible.
- (3) If you use tampons when you are not having a menstrual period, change the tampons often.

**Talk with your doctor about any drugs you are now taking.** You are more likely to get a vaginal yeast infection if you are taking certain drugs such as antibiotics, steroids, birth control pills, or who have a weakened immune system.

**Can I use MONISTAT® 7 Vaginal Cream during my menstrual period?**

Yes, this product can be used during your menstrual period. In fact, many women get vaginal yeast infections just before their period because of hormonal changes. Using MONISTAT® 7 Vaginal Cream during your period will not affect how well this product works. If you have started treatment and your period occurs, you should complete the full course of treatment.

If you may have been exposed to HIV and got repeated vaginal yeast infections, you should see your doctor right away. For more information on HIV infection, please contact your doctor or the CDC National AIDS HOTLINE (the CDC phone number is: 1-800-232-4636 (English and Spanish), or 1-888-232-6348 (hearing impaired, TDD)).

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##### What warnings should I know about when using MONISTAT® 7 Vaginal Cream? For vaginal use only.

Do not use if you have never had a vaginal yeast infection diagnosed by a doctor. Ask a doctor before use if you have:

- vaginal itching and discomfort for the first time. You may need a different treatment.
- lower abdominal, back or shoulder pain, fever, chills, nausea, vomiting, or foul-smelling vaginal discharge. You could have a more serious condition.
- vaginal yeast infections often (such as once a month or 3 in 6 months). You could be pregnant or have a serious underlying medical cause for your symptoms, including diabetes or a weakened immune system.
- been exposed to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that causes AIDS. Ask a doctor or pharmacist before use if you are taking the prescription blood thinner medicine, warfarin (coumadin), because bleeding or bruising may occur.

**When using this product:**

- do not use tampons, douches, spermicides, or other vaginal products. Condoms and diaphragms may be damaged and fail to prevent pregnancy or sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).
- the use of antibiotics
- the use of some birth control pills
- pregnancy
- diabetes ("sugar" or "high blood sugar")
- clothing - wearing tight layers or moist clothing in the genital area
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**Directions for using the Vaginal Cream Externally**

Use the cream twice daily for up to 7 days as needed.

1. Squeeze a small amount of cream onto your fingertip.



2. Apply the cream onto the skin outside the vagina (vulva) that itches and is irritated.



3. Screw the cap back on the tube.

4. Repeat steps 1 - 3 each morning and at bedtime for up to 7 days, as needed.

and your symptoms are gone.

What are the side effects of MONISTAT® 7 Vaginal Cream?

Most side effects are mild and temporary.

Common side effects include:

■ rash, irritation, or burning on the skin outside the vagina (vulva)

■ redness or swelling of the skin outside the vagina (vulva)

■ pain or tenderness in the genital area

■ vaginal discharge that may be thick, white, and lumpy like cottage cheese

■ vaginal soreness, irritation, or burning

■ rash or redness of the skin outside the vagina (vulva)

■ burning on urination

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