

Subcutaneous doses of 0.1, 0.2 and 0.3 mg/kg/day hydrocortisone butyrate were administered to pregnant female rabbits during gestation days 7 – 20. Increased abortion was noted at 0.3 mg/kg/day. In the absence of maternal toxicity, a dose-dependent decrease in fetal body weight was noted at doses ≥ 0.1 mg/kg/day. Embryofetal toxicities (reduction in litter size, decreased number of viable fetuses, and increased post-implantation loss) were noted at doses ≥ 0.2 mg/kg/day. Additional fetal effects included delayed ossification noted at doses ≥ 0.1 mg/kg/day and increased fetal malformations (primarily skeletal malformations) noted at doses ≥ 0.2 mg/kg/day. A dose at which no embryofetal toxicity or malformation was observed was not established in this study.

Additional systemic embryofetal development studies were conducted in rats and mice. Subcutaneous doses of 0.1 and 9 mg/kg/day hydrocortisone butyrate were administered to pregnant female rats during gestation days 9 – 15. In the presence of maternal toxicity, an increase in fetal death and fetal resorption and an increase in ossification of caudal vertebrae were noted at 9 mg/kg/day. No treatment-related embryofetal toxicity or malformation was noted at 0.1 mg/kg/day.

Subcutaneous doses of 0.2 and 1 mg/kg/day hydrocortisone butyrate were administered to pregnant female mice during gestation days 7 – 13. In the absence of maternal toxicity, an increased number of cervical ribs and one fetus with clubbed legs were noted at 1 mg/kg/day. No treatment-related embryofetal toxicity or malformation was noted at 1 and 0.2 mg/kg/day. No topical embryofetal development studies were conducted with hydrocortisone butyrate lotion. However, topical embryofetal development studies were conducted in rats and rabbits with a hydrocortisone butyrate ointment formulation. Topical doses of 1% and 10% hydrocortisone butyrate ointment were administered to pregnant female rats during gestation days 6 – 15 or pregnant female rabbits during gestation days 6 – 18. A dose-dependent increase in fetal resorption was noted in rabbits and fetal resorptions were noted in rats at the 10% hydrocortisone butyrate ointment dose.

No treatment-related embryofetal toxicity was noted at the 1% hydrocortisone butyrate ointment dose in rats. A dose at which no embryofetal toxicity was observed in rabbits after topical administration of hydrocortisone butyrate ointment was not established. No treatment-related malformation was noted at a dose of 10% hydrocortisone butyrate ointment in rats or rabbits.

A peri- and post-natal development study was conducted in rats. Subcutaneous doses of 0.6, 1.8 and 5.4 mg/kg/day hydrocortisone butyrate were administered to pregnant female rats from gestation day 6 to lactation day 20. In the presence of maternal toxicity, a dose-dependent decrease in fetal weight was noted at doses ≥1.8 mg/kg/day. No treatment-related fetal toxicity was noted at 0.6 mg/kg/day. A delay in sexual maturation was noted at 5.4 mg/kg/day. No treatment-related effects on sexual maturation were noted at 1.8 mg/kg/day. No treatment-related effects on behavioral development or subsequent reproductive performance were noted at 5.4 mg/kg/day.

8.2 Lactation

Risk Summary

There are no data on the presence of hydrocortisone butyrate in human or animal milk, effects on the breastfed infant, or effects on milk production.

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 EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion could result in sufficient systemic absorption to produce detectable quantities in human milk.

The developmental and health benefits of breastfeeding should be considered along with the mother's clinical need for EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion and any potential adverse effects on the breastfed infant from EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion or from the underlying maternal condition.

Clinical Considerations

To minimize potential exposure to the breastfed infant via breast milk, use EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion on the smallest area of skin and for the shortest duration possible while breastfeeding. Advise breastfeeding women to wash off prior to breastfeeding any EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion that has been applied to the areas at risk for direct infant contact.

8.4 Pediatric Use

The safety and effectiveness of EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion for the topical treatment of mild to moderate atopic dermatitis have been established in pediatric patients 3 months of age and older. Use of EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion for this indication is supported by evidence from an adequate and well-controlled trial in 284 pediatric patients 3 months to 18 years of age with mild to moderate atopic dermatitis.

The safety and effectiveness of EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion have not been established in pediatric patients younger than 3 months of age.

Endocrine Adverse Reactions

Eighty-four (84) pediatric subjects (3 months to less than 18 years of age) with moderate to severe atopic dermatitis affecting at least 25% of body surface area (BSA) treated with Hydrocortisone Butyrate Lotion three times daily for up to 4 weeks were assessed for HPA axis suppression. The disease severity (moderate to severe atopic dermatitis) and the dosing regimen (three times daily) in this HPA axis trial were different from the subject population (mild to moderate atopic dermatitis) and the dosing regimen (twice daily) for which EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion is indicated. Seven of the 82 evaluable subjects (8.5%) demonstrated laboratory evidence of HPA axis suppression, where the criterion for defining HPA axis suppression was a serum cortisol level of less than or equal to 18 mcg/dL after cosyntropin stimulation. Subjects with HPA axis suppression ranged from 1 to 12 years of age and, at the time of enrollment, had 35% to 90% BSA involvement. These subjects did not develop any other signs or symptoms of HPA axis suppression. At the first follow-up visit, approximately 1 month after the conclusion of treatment, cosyntropin stimulation results of all subjects had returned to normal, with the exception of one subject. This last subject recovered adrenal function by the second post-treatment visit, 55 days post-treatment [see *Clinical Pharmacology* (12.2)].

Because of higher skin-surface-to-body-mass ratios, pediatric patients are at a greater risk than adults of HPA axis suppression when they are treated with topical corticosteroids [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)]. They are therefore also at a greater risk of glucocorticosteroid insufficiency after withdrawal of treatment and of Cushing's syndrome while on treatment.

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 pediatric patients include low plasma cortisol levels to an absence of response to ACTH stimulation. Manifestations of intracranial hypertension include bulging fontanelles, headaches, and bilateral papilledema.

8.5 Geriatric Use

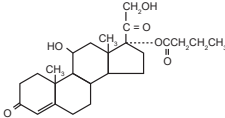
Clinical trials of Hydrocortisone Butyrate Lotion did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 years and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger adult subjects.

11 DESCRIPTION

EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion, 0.1% contains hydrocortisone butyrate, a non-fluorinated hydrocortisone ester, for topical use.

Hydrocortisone butyrate is a corticosteroid.

The chemical name of hydrocortisone butyrate is Pregn-4-ene-3,20-dione, 11,21-dihydroxy-17-[(1-oxobutyl)oxy](11β)-. It has the following structural formula:



Hydrocortisone butyrate is a white to off-white powder with a molecular weight of 432.56, and a molecular formula of C₂₆H₃₈O₆. It is practically insoluble in water, slightly soluble in ether, soluble in methanol, alcohol, and acetone, and freely soluble in chloroform.

Each gram of EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion contains 1 mg of hydrocortisone butyrate in a white to off-white lotion base consisting of anhydrous citric acid, ceteth-20, cetostearyl alcohol, butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT), butylparaben, light mineral oil, propylparaben, purified water, sodium citrate, and white petrolatum.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Corticosteroids play a role in cellular signaling, immune function, inflammation, and protein regulation; however, the precise mechanism of action in atopic dermatitis is unknown.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

Pharmacodynamics of EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion is unknown.

Hypothalamic-Pituitary-Adrenal (HPA) Axis Suppression

Eighty-four (84) pediatric subjects (3 months to less than 18 years of age) with moderate to severe atopic dermatitis affecting at least 25% of body surface area (BSA) treated with Hydrocortisone Butyrate Lotion three times daily for up to 4 weeks were assessed for HPA axis suppression. The disease severity (moderate to severe atopic dermatitis) and the dosing regimen (three times daily) in this HPA axis trial were different from the subject population (mild to moderate atopic dermatitis) and the dosing regimen (twice daily) for which EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion is indicated. Seven of the 82 evaluable subjects (8.5%) demonstrated laboratory evidence of HPA axis suppression, where the criterion for defining HPA axis suppression was a serum cortisol level of less than or equal to 18 mcg/dL after cosyntropin stimulation. Subjects with HPA axis suppression ranged from 1 to 12 years of age and, at the time of enrollment, had 35% to 90% BSA involvement. These subjects did not develop any other signs or symptoms of HPA axis suppression. At the first follow-up visit, approximately 1 month after the conclusion of treatment, cosyntropin stimulation results of all subjects had returned to normal, with the exception of one subject. This last subject recovered adrenal function by the second post-treatment visit, 55 days post-treatment [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1), *Use in Specific Populations* (8.4)].

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

No studies were conducted to determine the pharmacokinetics of EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion.

The extent of percutaneous absorption of topical corticosteroids is determined by many factors, including the vehicle, the integrity of the epidermal barrier, and the use of occlusive dressings.

Topical corticosteroids can be absorbed through normal intact skin. Inflammation and/or other disease processes in the skin, occlusive dressings, or widespread application may increase percutaneous absorption.

Once absorbed through the skin, topical corticosteroids are handled through pharmacokinetic pathways similar to systemically administered corticosteroids.

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

In a 2-year dermal rat carcinogenicity study with Hydrocortisone Butyrate Lotion, hydrocortisone butyrate was administered to Sprague-Dawley rats at topical doses of 0.05, 0.15, and 0.3 mg/kg/day in males and 0.1, 0.25, and 0.5 mg/kg/day in females (0.1% lotion). No drug-related tumors were noted in this study up to the highest doses evaluated in this study of 0.3 mg/kg/day in males and 0.5 mg/kg/day in females.

Hydrocortisone butyrate revealed no evidence of mutagenic or clastogenic potential based on the results of two *in vitro* genotoxicity tests (Ames test and L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma assay) and one *in vivo* genotoxicity test (mouse micronucleus assay).

No evidence of impairment of fertility or effect on mating performance was observed in a fertility and general reproductive performance study conducted in male and female rats at subcutaneous doses up to 1.8 mg/kg/day. Mild effects on maternal animals, such as reduced food consumption and a subsequent reduction in body weight gain, were seen at doses ≥ 0.6 mg/kg/day.

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

In a multicenter, randomized, vehicle-controlled trial of 284 pediatric subjects 3 months to 18 years of age with mild to moderate atopic dermatitis, Hydrocortisone Butyrate Lotion or vehicle was applied twice daily for up to 4 weeks. Treatment success was assessed at day 29 (after 28 days of treatment) and was defined as the proportion of subjects who achieved both "clear" or "almost clear" and at least a 2-grade improvement from baseline on a 5-point Physician's Global Assessment (PGA) scale. The trial results are shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3. Efficacy Results at Day 29 in Pediatric Subjects 3 Months to 18 Years of Age with Mild to Moderate Atopic Dermatitis

	Hydrocortisone Butyrate Lotion (n=139)	Vehicle (n=145)
Number (%) successes	68 (49%)	35 (24%)

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

How Supplied

EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion, 0.1% is white to off-white in color and supplied in:

- 4 fl. oz. bottle: NDC 87143-420-04

Storage and Handling

Store at 25°C (77°F); excursions permitted to 15° to 30°C (59° to 86°F) [see USP Controlled Room Temperature]. Protect from freezing.

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

Patients using EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion should receive the following information and instructions:

Administration Instructions

Instruct patients to apply a thin layer to the affected skin two times daily and rub in gently [see *Dosage and Administration* (2)].

Advise patients to discontinue EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion when control is achieved [see *Dosage and Administration* (2)].

Advise patients to avoid use for longer than 2 weeks. Instruct patients to contact their healthcare provider if no improvement is seen within 2 weeks [see *Dosage and Administration* (2)].

Advise patients to **NOT** [see *Dosage and Administration* (2) and *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)]:

- Bandage, otherwise cover, or wrap the affected skin area unless directed by their healthcare provider.
- Use EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion in the diaper area, as diapers or plastic pants may constitute occlusive dressings.
- Use EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion on the face, underarms, or groin areas unless directed by their healthcare provider.

Endocrine System Adverse Reactions

Instruct patients not to use other corticosteroid-containing products while using EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion without first consulting their healthcare provider [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.1)].

Ophthalmic Adverse Reactions

Advise patients to avoid contact with the eyes. Instruct patients to report any visual symptoms to their healthcare providers [see *Warnings and Precautions* (5.4)].

Lactation

Advise breastfeeding women to use EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion on the smallest area of skin and for the shortest duration possible while breastfeeding. Advise to wash off prior to breastfeeding any EVESSE™ (hydrocortisone butyrate) Lotion that has been applied to the areas at risk for direct infant contact. [see *Use in Specific Populations* (8.2)].

Distributed by:

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Issued: 02/2026
P1420