



SKIN | CANCER | FOCUS

Aldara (Imiquimod) Patient Information Sheet

What is Aldara?

Aldara is a prescription cream that helps your immune system treat certain skin conditions. It is commonly used for:

- Actinic keratosis (precancerous sun spots)
- Superficial basal cell carcinoma (a type of skin cancer)
- External genital warts

It works by stimulating your immune system to attack abnormal skin cells or viruses.

How to Use Aldara

1. **Clean and dry** the affected area before applying.
2. **Apply a thin layer** of Aldara cream to the affected area.
3. **Frequency:** Usually applied **once daily, 2–5 times per week**, depending on your doctor's instructions.
4. **Duration:** Treatment courses vary (weeks to months), depending on your condition.
5. **Wash your hands** after application.

Do not cover the treated area with airtight dressings unless your doctor tells you to.

Possible Side Effects

- Redness, swelling, or burning at the application site
- Itching, irritation, or flaking of the skin
- Mild flu-like symptoms (rare)
- Temporary changes in skin color or scarring

Most side effects are mild and resolve after stopping the treatment.

Precautions

- Avoid contact with eyes, mouth, or mucous membranes.
- Do not use on broken or infected skin unless instructed.

- Inform your doctor if you are **pregnant, breastfeeding, or have a weakened immune system**.
 - Avoid sun exposure on treated areas and use sunscreen.
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When to Contact Your Doctor

- Severe redness, swelling, or pain
 - Signs of infection (pus, fever)
 - Allergic reactions (rash, swelling, difficulty breathing)
 - If your skin condition worsens or does not improve after treatment
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Storage

- Keep the cream in the **original tube** at **room temperature** (below 25°C).
 - Keep out of reach of children.
 - Do not use after the expiry date.
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