



# Optimyxin®

Gramicidin and Polymyxin B Sulfate  
Sterile Eye Drops



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READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE  
PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

## Optimyxin®



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Sterile Eye Drops

Read this carefully before you or your child start using Optimyxin. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this drug. Talk to your healthcare professional about your or your child's medical condition and treatment and ask if there is any new information about Optimyxin.

### What is Optimyxin used for?

Optimyxin contains antibiotics and is used to treat external infections of the eye such as bacterial pink eye.

### What ingredients are in Optimyxin?

Medicinal ingredients: Each mL contains polymyxin B (as sulfate) 10,000 units and gramicidin 0.025 mg.

Non-medicinal ingredients: benzalkonium chloride 0.005% (preservative), boric acid, ethyl alcohol, poloxamer 188, sodium hydroxide, water for injection.

### What is Pink Eye?

Pink eye is also known as conjunctivitis and can be caused by an allergy, a bacteria or a virus.

Common signs of pink eye are:

- Redness in the white of the eye
- Swelling of the eyelids
- Watery eyes
- Itchiness or a feeling of having sand in the eye

### How do I know I have bacterial Pink Eye?

- Pink eye caused by bacteria is accompanied by a thick, yellow-white discharge that may cause the eyelids to stick together, especially upon waking in the morning.
- Pink eye caused by virus is often accompanied by a sore throat and/or a tender node in front of the ear, and the discharge tends to be more watery than sticky.
- If the pink eye is due to an allergy, it may be accompanied by swollen eyes and other symptoms of allergy, such as a runny nose. It also often occurs during the typical seasons (spring and fall) and usually occurs in both eyes.

### How is a bacterial Pink Eye treated?

Since bacterial pink eye is very contagious, it is a good idea to begin the treatment with antibiotic eye drops as soon as possible. Optimyxin treats external infection and helps relieve the redness and itchiness associated with bacterial pink eye.

Without treatment, bacterial pink eye may go away by itself in 1 to 2 weeks. To help relieve discomfort, bathe eyes with warm water several times a day and apply warm packs. Clean edges of the infected eye with warm water and cotton balls to remove crusts of dried discharge that may cause the eyelids to stick together.

### How do I use Optimyxin to treat bacterial Pink Eye?

Instill one or two drops in the affected eye or eyes, two to four times a day for 7 to 10 days. You should begin to see an improvement in your symptoms within 1 to 2 days. Even though the symptoms of the infection may be relieved within 1 to 2 days, you should use Optimyxin for 7 to 10 days to completely cure the infection.

### Applying Optimyxin drops into the eye:

- Wash hands with soap and water.
- Tilt the head back or lie down and look toward the ceiling.
- With the eyes open, gently pull the lower eyelid below the eyelashes away from the eye to form a pouch.
- Hold the bottle at least 2 cm away and squeeze one drop into the pouch.
- Slowly release the lower lid.
- Gently close the eye for one or two minutes. Do not rub the eye and try not to blink.
- If multiple drops are used, wait three to five minutes between each drop.

- Do not let the bottle directly touch the eye.
- Contact lenses should not be worn until the infection has resolved.

**To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you use Optimyxin. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if:**

- you have fever;
- you experience eye pain, changes in vision, continued redness or irritation of the eye, or if the condition worsens or persists, consult a physician;
- you have glaucoma, do not use this product except under the advice and supervision of a physician;
- your vision may be blurred for a few minutes after using the product. Do not drive or operate machinery until you can see clearly;
- there is no improvement within two days of starting treatment, stop use and consult a physician.

### Other warnings you should know about:

- Overuse of this product may produce increased redness of the eye;
- For external use only;
- Do not use if you are allergic to any ingredient;
- Do not use if solution changes color or becomes cloudy;
- Do not touch tip of bottle to any surface to avoid contamination.

### REPORTING SIDE EFFECTS

You can help improve the safe use of health products for Canadians by reporting serious and unexpected side effects to Health Canada. Your report may help to identify new side effects and change the product safety information.

### 3 ways to report:

- Online at Medeffect
- By calling 1-866-234-2345 (toll free);
- By completing a Consumer Side Effect Reporting Form and sending it by:
  - Fax to 1-866-678-6789 (toll free), or
  - Mail to: Canada Vigilance Program  
Health Canada, Postal Locator 0701E  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0K9

Postage paid labels and the Consumer Side Effect Reporting Form are available at MedEffect.

*NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.*

### How to store?

Store between 15 and 30°C. Discard within 30 days from opening.

Optimyxin is available in a plastic dropper bottle of 10 mL.

**If you want more information about Optimyxin, or pink eyes, contact your pharmacist or doctor, or call 1-800-361-3062.**

This leaflet was prepared by Sandoz Canada Inc.

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