

A Guide to Good Prescribing of Eye Drops

Prescribing tip for information

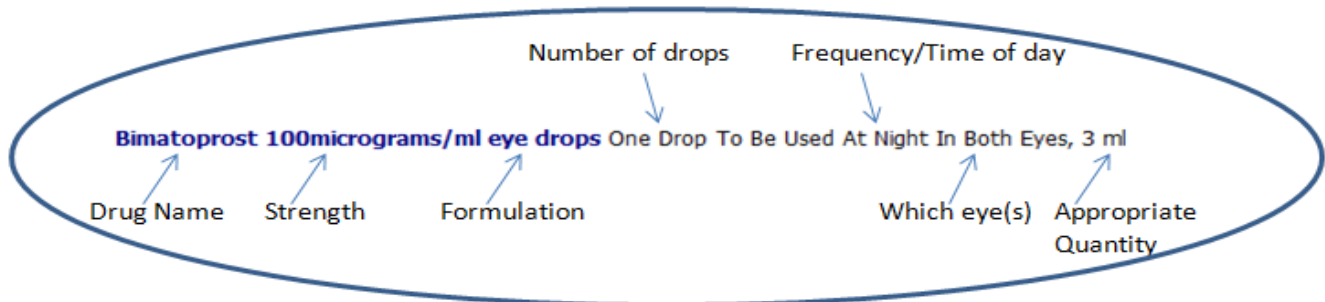


When prescribing eye drops, ALWAYS ensure that the following are included:

- Drug name
- Strength
- Formulation
- Number of drops – ‘1 drop to be used in the eye’ is the usual dose. Anything different must be queried.
- Frequency or Time of day
- Details of eye(s) to be treated - Affected eyes or As directed is not sufficient
- Quantity

If ANY of these are missing contact the relevant eye clinic for clarification BEFORE issuing.

Example



Eye Drop Quantities

It is important that eye drops are administered correctly to ensure that treatment of any eye condition is optimised. The table below gives a guide as to the quantity of eye drops per month.

Size	Usual dose	Quantity will last	12 month's quantity
2.5ml / 3ml	1 drop daily in single or both eyes	1 month	13 bottles
5ml	1 drop twice daily in 1 eye only	1 month	13 bottles
5ml	1 drop twice daily in both eyes	Approx. 3 - 4 weeks	Approx. 13-16 bottles

Some patients find it difficult to administer eye drops and any request for additional supplies of eye drops should always be investigated. If the patient is experiencing difficulty with administration, an eye drop aid may be beneficial. The patient should contact their eye clinic or ask at their next appointment as the eye clinic nurse will be able to advise which device is best suited to the patient's needs. The Community Pharmacist may also be able to advise the patient as a very limited number of eyedrop aids are available on prescription and it is important that the patient has the most appropriate aid.

To contact the Medicines Optimisation Team please phone 01772 214302