

TOPICAL STEROID POTENCIES

LOW POTENCY

Alclometasone dipropionate 0.05% Aclovate (crm, oint)	Hydrocortisone base or acetate 1% (continued) Proctocort Cream (crm) U-cort (crm)	Hydrocortisone base or acetate 2.5% Analpram HC 2.5% ¹ (crm, lotion) Pramosone 2.5% ¹ (crm, oint, lotion) Proctocream HC (crm)
Fluocinolone acetonide 0.01% Synalar (soln)	Hydrocortisone base or acetate 1.85% Proctocort ¹ (crm)	Hydrocortisone base or acetate 2% Pediaderm HC (lotion) Scalacort (lotion)
Hydrocortisone base or acetate 1% Analpram HC 1% ¹ (crm) Epifoam ¹ (foam) Pramosone 1% ¹ (crm, oint, lotion)	Hydrocortisone base or acetate 2% Pediaderm HC (lotion) Scalacort (lotion)	Triamcinolone acetonide 0.025%⁴

INTERMEDIATE POTENCY

Betamethasone dipropionate 0.05%²	Fluocinolone acetonide 0.025% Synalar (crm, oint)	Hydrocortisone butyrate 0.1% Locoid (crm, oint, soln) Locoid Lipocream (crm)
Betamethasone valerate 0.12% Luxiq (foam)	Flurandrenolide 0.025% Cordran-SP (crm) Cordran (oint)	Hydrocortisone valerate 0.2% Westcort (crm, oint)
Clocortolone pivalate 0.1% Cloderm (crm)	Flurandrenolide 0.05% Cordran-SP (crm) Cordran (lotion, oint)	Mometasone furoate 0.1% Elocon (crm, lotion, oint)
Desonide 0.05% Desonate (gel) DesOwen (lotion, oint) Verdeso (foam)	Fluticasone propionate 0.005% Cutivate (ointment)	Prednicarbate 0.1% Dermatop (emollient crm, oint)
Desoximetasone 0.05% Topicort-LP (emollient crm)	Fluticasone propionate 0.05% Cutivate (crm, lotion)	Triamcinolone acetonide 0.05% Trianex (ointment)
Fluocinolone acetonide 0.01% Derma-Smoothe/FS (oil) Capex (shampoo)	Hydrocortisone probutate 0.1% Pandel (crm)	Triamcinolone acetonide 0.1%⁴ Triamcinolone acetonide 0.2% Kenalog (aerosol)

HIGH POTENCY

Amcinonide 0.1%⁵	Desoximetasone 0.25% Topicort (emollient crm, oint)	Halcinonide 0.1%³ Halog (crm, oint, soln)
Betamethasone dipropionate, augmented 0.05% Diprolene AF (emollient crm) Diprolene (lotion)	Diflorasone diacetate 0.05%	Triamcinolone acetonide 0.5%² Kenalog (crm)
Desoximetasone 0.05% Topicort (gel)	Fluocinonide 0.05%	

SUPER HIGH POTENCY

Betamethasone dipropionate, augmented 0.05% Diprolene (oint, gel)	Clobetasol propionate 0.05% Clobex (lotion, shampoo, spray) Olux (foam) Olux-E (foam) Temovate (crm, gel, oint, scalp application) Temovate-E (emollient crm)	Fluocinonide 0.1% Vanox (crm)
		Flurandrenolide 4mcg/sq cm Cordran (tape)

Halobetasol propionate 0.05%
Ultravate (crm, oint)

NOTES

¹Indicates that the product has more than one active ingredient

²Also available as a cream generically

³Also available as an emollient cream generically

⁴Also available as a cream or ointment generically

⁵Also available as a cream, ointment, or lotion generically

The classification is based on vasoconstrictor assays and clinical studies. Potency varies according to the corticosteroid, its concentration, and the vehicle. In general, corticosteroids in lotions, creams, gels, and ointments are increasingly more potent due to increased absorption from these vehicles.

Absorption is increased by prolonged therapy, large areas of skin damage, and the use of occlusive dressings which may cause an increase in the incidence of side effects.

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