

What are the possible side effects of Minoxidil?^{3,4}

Redness, irritation and itching at the site of application

Headache

Unwanted facial/body hair

Temporary hair loss

Why should you take it for a long time?^{3,4,6}

Hair takes time to grow. You need to use Minoxidil regularly for 4 months and possibly for up to 1 year to see beneficial results. It must be used continuously to maintain hair growth.

Within 4 months



This communication is intended for public awareness purpose only and does not substitute advice of a Medical Practitioner. Please consult your doctor for any medical advice

Minoxidil for HAIR LOSS

Inform your doctor immediately, if you experience any of the following symptoms:^{3,4}



Weight gain



Swelling of the face, ankles, hands or stomach



Difficulty breathing (especially when lying down)



Rapid heartbeat



Chest pain



Dizziness or fainting

Minoxidil myths and facts

Myths Minoxidil causes hair fall

- No, hair loss may continue for only initial 2 weeks after you start using Minoxidil.⁷
- It is a sign that the treatment is in fact working.⁸

Myths Minoxidil is not effective on the hairline

- No, minoxidil effectively stimulates growth whenever hair naturally grows.⁸

References:

1. Minoxidil for hair loss [Internet]. [cited 2021 Oct 26]. Available from: https://www.gloshospitals.nhs.uk/media/documents/Minoxidil_for_hair_loss_GHP1649_04_21.pdf.
2. Hon A. Minoxidil solution [Internet]. DermNet NZ. [cited 2021 Oct 26]. Available from: <https://dermnetz.org/topics/minoxidil-solution>.
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Why is Minoxidil prescribed?^{1,2}

Topical Minoxidil is used to treat hair loss occurred due to:



Female pattern hair loss



Male pattern hair loss

What should you tell your doctor before using Minoxidil?^{3,4}

Inform your doctor if you have any of the following conditions:



Frontal hair loss or receding hairline

Family history of hair loss



Sudden or patchy hair loss

Red, inflamed, infected or painful scalp



Allergy to any other medicines, foods, dyes, or preservatives

Pregnant or trying to get pregnant



Breastfeeding



Taking medications for high BP or heart disease



How should you apply Minoxidil?³⁻⁷

Topical Minoxidil comes in the form of a liquid solution or foam. It can be applied using 3 applicators:^{4,5}



A metered-spray applicator for large scalp areas



An extender spray applicator for small areas or under the hair



Dropper for small areas

Consider following things while using Minoxidil:^{3,4,6,7}

Wash hands before and after use⁶



Keep hair and scalp clean and dry³



Apply as directed by doctor. Do not use more or less⁴

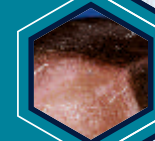


Avoid contact with eyes, nose, mouth, or broken skin⁴

Do not change the dosage without doctor's approval⁴



Do not apply to a sunburned or irritated scalp^{3,4}



Do not wash your scalp for at least 4 hours after application⁷



Do not use a hair dryer after application⁷

What should you do if you miss a dose?^{3,4}

If you miss a dose, skip the missed dose and continue regular dosing schedule. Do not apply two doses to make up for the missed dose.

