

Package leaflet: Information for the user

Nasacort® Allergy 55 micrograms/dose, nasal spray suspension triamcinolone acetonide

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you

The name of your medicine is ‘Nasacort Allergy 55 micrograms/dose, nasal spray suspension’, throughout the rest of this document it will be referred to as ‘Nasacort Allergy’.

This medicine is available without prescription. However, you still need to use Nasacort Allergy carefully to get the best results from it.

Always use this medicine exactly as described in this leaflet or as your doctor or pharmacist has told you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you need more information or advice.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.
- You must talk to a doctor if you do not feel better or if you feel worse after 14 days.

What is in this leaflet

1. What Nasacort Allergy is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you use Nasacort Allergy
3. How to use Nasacort Allergy
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Nasacort Allergy
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Nasacort Allergy is and what it is used for

Nasacort Allergy Nasal spray (called Nasacort Allergy throughout this leaflet) contains a medicine called triamcinolone acetonide. This belongs to a group of medicines called corticosteroids which means it is a type of steroid. It is given as a spray in the nose to treat the nasal symptoms of allergic rhinitis.

Nasal symptoms of allergy include sneezing, itching, and having a blocked, stuffy or runny nose. This type of allergy, such as hay fever, can be caused by different pollens in different seasons of the year. This is called ‘seasonal allergic rhinitis’.

This medicine only works if used on a regular basis and may not help your symptoms straight away. It helps some people within the first day of treatment, however, for other people it may take 3 to 4 days to feel a relief.

2. What you need to know before you use Nasacort Allergy

Do not use Nasacort Allergy if:

- You are allergic (hypersensitive) to triamcinolone acetonide or any of the other ingredients of Nasacort Allergy (See Section 6)
Signs of an allergic reaction to Nasacort Allergy include: a rash (hives), itching, swallowing or breathing problems, swelling of your lips, face, throat or tongue.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Nasacort Allergy if:

- You have any infection of the nose or throat that is not treated. If you get a fungal infection while using Nasacort Allergy, stop using the spray until the infection has been treated.
- You have recently had a nose operation, or had an injury or ulcer in the nose.
- You are being transferred from steroid injections or tablets to Nasacort Allergy spray.
- You have had glaucoma or cataracts.

If you are not sure if any of the above apply to you, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using this medicine.

Contact your doctor if you experience blurred vision or other visual disturbances.

Children and adolescents (under 18 years)

This medicine is not recommended for use in children and adolescents under 18 years of age.

Operations or times of stress

Your doctor may advise you to take a higher than normal dose of this medicine for medical reasons. If your dose is increased, tell your doctor if you are going to have an operation or are feeling unwell. This is because higher than normal doses of this medicine can lower your body's ability to heal or cope with stress. If this happens, your doctor may decide you need further treatment with another medicine to help.

Other medicines and Nasacort Allergy

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription. This is because Nasacort Allergy can affect the way some other medicines work. Also some medicines can affect the way Nasacort Allergy works. Some medicines may increase the effects of Nasacort Allergy and your doctor may wish to monitor you carefully if you are taking these medicines (including some medicines for HIV: ritonavir, cobicistat).

Pregnancy and breast-feeding and fertility

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Driving and using machines

Nasacort Allergy has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

Nasacort Allergy contains benzalkonium chloride

This medicine contains 15 micrograms benzalkonium chloride in each spray.

Benzalkonium chloride may cause irritation or swelling inside the nose, especially if used for a long time.

Systemic effects

When corticosteroids, including triamcinolone acetonide, are used for long periods of time or at high doses for long periods of time, side effects may occur due to the drug being absorbed in the body (e.g. the normal production of steroidal hormones may be affected). These side effects are much less likely to occur with corticosteroid nasal sprays than with corticosteroids taken orally (e.g. tablets). Talk to your doctor if you experience any side effects.

3. How to use Nasacort Allergy

Nasacort Allergy is for nasal use only.

Always use this medicine exactly as described in this leaflet or as your doctor or pharmacist has told you.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure. The medicine only works if it is used regularly. It can take 3 to 4 days before you notice your symptoms getting better.

How much Nasacort Allergy to use

Adults (18 years and over)

- The usual starting dose is 2 sprays in each nostril each day
- Once the symptoms of allergy are under control, the dose may be lowered to 1 spray in each nostril each day
- If the symptoms do not go away after 14 days, check with your doctor or pharmacist
- You should not use the spray for longer than three months without consulting your doctor

Children and adolescents (under 18 years)

- This medicine is not recommended for use in children and adolescents under 18 years of age.

How to use the spray

Before using your nasal spray, blow your nose gently to clear your nostrils.

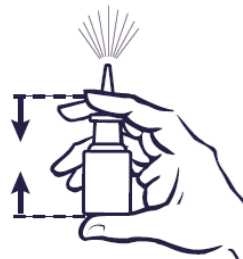
1. Preparing the bottle

- Remove the cap by pulling upwards.
- Shake the bottle gently before use.



2. If you are using the spray for the first time

- Hold the bottle upright.
- Point the spray away from you while doing this.
- Fill the pump with spray by pressing the nozzle downwards. This is called priming.
- Press and release it 5 times
- Do this until a fine spray is produced
- The spray is now ready to use.



3. Using the spray

- Close one nostril with your finger
- Hold the bottle upright and put the nozzle into the other nostril as far as is comfortable
- Breathe in gently through your nose with your mouth closed
- While you are doing this, press the nozzle to deliver one spray



Correct Position



Wrong Position

4. Then breath out through your mouth

5. **Repeat** steps 3 and 4 if you have to spray again in the same nostril and for the other nostril

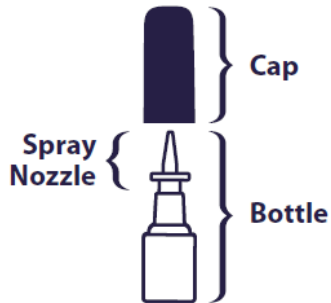
6. After using the spray

- To keep the spray nozzle clean, wipe it carefully with a clean tissue or handkerchief after each use

- Replace the cap over the nozzle

If the nasal spray has not been used for more than 2 weeks:

- It needs to be primed again, to fill the nozzle with the spray
- The nozzle should be pointed away from you while you are doing this
- To prime, spray into the air once before use
- Always shake the bottle gently before use



Cleaning the spray

If the spray does not work, the nozzle may be blocked. **Never** try to unblock it or enlarge the tiny spray hole with a pin or other sharp objects. This is because it can stop the spray from working.



The nasal spray should be cleaned at least once a week. It can be cleaned more often if it gets blocked.

Instructions for cleaning the spray:

1. Remove the cap
2. Gently pull off the spray nozzle only



3. Soak the cap and spray nozzle in warm water for a few minutes
4. Rinse under the cold running tap water



5. Shake or tap to remove any water that is left
6. Allow to dry in the air
7. Re-fit the spray nozzle
8. Prime the nasal spray until a fine mist is formed
9. Use as normal

If you use more Nasacort Allergy than you should

It is important that you take your dose as stated on the pharmacist's label or as advised by your doctor or pharmacist. You should use only as much as your pharmacist or doctor recommends; using more or less may make your symptoms worse.

An overdose is unlikely to cause problems, however, if you have taken the entire contents of the bottle by mouth, you may have stomach or gut discomfort.

Talk to a doctor or pharmacist if you use more Nasacort Allergy than you should.

If you forget to use Nasacort Allergy

If you have forgotten to use Nasacort Allergy, use it as soon as you remember. Do not use a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

If you stop using Nasacort Allergy

If you stop using this medicine, your symptoms may return within a few days.

[If you experience any side effects \(withdrawal symptoms\) after stopping this medicine suddenly after prolonged use, talk to your doctor. See section 4 'Possible side effects' for more information.](#)

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Stop using Nasacort Allergy and see a doctor or go to a hospital straight away if:

- you have an allergic reaction to Nasacort Allergy. The signs (frequency not known) may include: a rash (hives), itching, swallowing or breathing problems, swelling of your lips, face, throat or tongue.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have any of the following side effects. Also tell them if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet.

Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- Runny nose, headache, sore throat and/or cough
- Nosebleeds
- Inflammation/irritation of the airways (bronchitis)
- Heartburn or indigestion
- Flu-like symptoms (fever, muscle pain, weakness and/or fatigue)
- Problems with teeth

Other side effects (frequency not known)

- Irritation and dryness on the inside of your nose
- Sinuses become congested or blocked
- Sneezing
- Changes in the way things taste or smell
- Feeling sick (nausea)
- Sleeping problems, feeling dizzy or tired
- Shortness of breath (dyspnoea)
- A decrease in the levels of cortisol in the blood (laboratory value)
- Cloudiness of the lens in the eye (cataract), elevated pressure inside the eye ball (glaucoma)
- Blurred vision
- Chorioretinopathy (eye disorder characterized by fluid accumulation under the retina that can impair the vision)
- Sudden discontinuation of corticosteroids after prolonged use may result in withdrawal symptoms like joint pain, muscle pain, shaking, weight loss, anxiety, nasal drip and bleeding from the nose. However, these symptoms are extremely rare for corticosteroid nasal sprays, and much less likely to occur with corticosteroid nasal sprays than with corticosteroids taken orally (e.g. tablets).

In some people, Nasacort Allergy can cause damage to the middle part of the inside of the nose (called 'nasal septum'). Discuss any worries you may have about this with your doctor or pharmacist.

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

Ireland:

You can also report side effects directly via HPRA Pharmacovigilance.

Website: www.hpra.ie

Malta:

You can also report side effects directly via ADR reporting.

Website: www.medicinesauthority.gov.mt/adrportal

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Nasacort Allergy

- Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
- Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and the bottle after "EXP". The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Do not store above 25°C.
- Following the first opening Nasacort Allergy should be used within 1 month for the 30 spray pack or 2 months for the 120 spray pack.

- Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Nasacort Allergy contains

The active substance is triamcinolone acetonide. One delivered dose contains 55 micrograms of triamcinolone acetonide.

The other ingredients are:

- microcrystalline cellulose and carmellose sodium (dispersible cellulose)
- polysorbate 80
- purified water
- anhydrous glucose
- benzalkonium chloride (50% w/v solution)
- disodium edetate
- hydrochloric acid or sodium hydroxide (for pH-adjustment)

What Nasacort Allergy looks like and contents of the pack



Nasacort Allergy is a nasal spray suspension. It comes in a white plastic bottle which has a pump to spray Nasacort Allergy into your nostril through the spray nozzle. The bottle has a protective purple cap to keep the nozzle clean and to stop it from spraying accidentally.

This one spray bottle holds at least 120 sprays (16.5 g of suspension which contains 9.075 mg triamcinolone acetonide) or at least 30 sprays (6.5 g of suspension which contains 3.575 mg triamcinolone acetonide).

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

Marketing Authorisation Holder:

In Ireland: Opella Healthcare France SAS, T/A Sanofi,
82 Avenue Raspail,
94250 Gentilly,
France.

Tel: +353 1 403 5600

Email: IEmedinfo@sanofi.com

In Malta: Sanofi S.r.l., Viale Luigi Bodio 37/b , 20158 Milan (Italy)

Manufacturer:

Recipharm HC Limited, London Road, Holmes Chapel,
Cheshire, CW4 8BE, United Kingdom

Sanofi Winthrop Industrie,
30 - 36, Avenue Gustave Eiffel, 37100 Tours, France.

This medicinal product is authorised in the Member States of the EEA under the following names:

Belgium: Allegra nasal, 55 micrograms/dose nasal spray suspension
Denmark: Triamcinolonacetamid sanofi-aventis
Germany: Nasacort Sanofi-Aventis, 55 Mikrogramm /Sprühstoß Nasenspray, Suspension
Greece: Nasacort Allergy™
Ireland: Nasacort Allergy 55 micrograms/dose nasal spray, suspension
Luxembourg: Allegra nasal, 55 micrograms/dose nasal spray suspension
Portugal: Triamcinolona Sanofi
United Kingdom: Triamcinolone acetamide 55 micrograms/dose nasal spray suspension

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