# **Topical Prescriptive 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride - FAQs**

## What is 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride?

5% Minoxidil + Finasteride is a topical compounded prescription solution containing the FDA-approved hair growth medications finasteride 0.25% and Minoxidil 5%, as well as retinoic acid for enhanced penetration of Minoxidil and sebum reduction, a mild low-dose anti-inflammatory, oleanolic acid—a mild anti-androgen, and other beneficial ingredients such as powerful antioxidant algae extracts without any propylene glycol (a common irritant) at a neutral pH.

#### Who should use 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride?

5% Minoxidil + Finasteride offers the powerful DHT-reducing effect of finasteride along with a deeply penetrating Minoxidil formulation in a non-greasy, user-friendly, hairstyle friendly, compounded topical prescription formula that may be appropriate for men and some postmenopausal women in the medical management of hair loss.

# What results can the average person expect to achieve with 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride?

Twice daily Minoxidil has been shown to regrow hair in up to 85% of men and 60% of women. Finasteride was FDA-approved as an oral prescription hair regrowth pill for men in 1998. While 90% effective orally, concerns about systemic side effects led researchers to explore the benefits of a compounded preparation of topical finasteride. 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride offers the synergistic approach of the only two medications FDA approved for hair regrowth.

#### How is 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride applied?

30 drops of 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride should initially be applied as directed—twice daily to the entire scalp that is "at risk" and focusing primarily in the areas of hair thinning. Remember that the products needs to be placed on the scalp as best as you can, once your scalp has been dried. Placement of these drops onto wet hair and scalp will dilute the concentration. Formula 82F Finoxidil should be distributed evenly and allowed to absorb for at least three hours before showering, swimming or participating in heavy physical or other activity that may cause sweating. The special droptainer bottle allows for the accurate application of medication directly where you need it... on the scalp, not on your hair.

#### How does 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride work?

It is well accepted that Minoxidil is a potent hair growth stimulator, causing resting follicles to produce hair, and weak follicles to produce longer thicker and more pigmented hair over time with consistent use. Oral finasteride is used to reduce dihydrotesterone (DHT), a known trigger for hair loss, in order to enhance hair growth. New research suggests that topical finasteride can be an effective treatment for hair loss and may reduce the chance of side effects that may occur with oral treatment

## What areas are normally treated with 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride

5% Minoxidil + Finasteride typically works to protect and enhance hair growth wherever there are weakened hair follicles or areas at risk. Common treatment areas include the crown/vertex area, top of the scalp, as well as the frontal/temple areas.

#### What are the typical side effects of 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride compared to other treatments?

In patients with a light complexion and skin tone, the scalp may appear slightly more pink than usual due to increased blood flow from the treatment. Redness, dryness, flaking, inflammation and discomfort at the scalp can occur but are rare with 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride because it has anti-inflammatory properties and contains absolutely NO propylene glycol (found in over-the-counter Minoxidil solutions). For patients concerned about the risk of sexual side effects from oral finasteride, research suggests that 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride which contains topical finasteride may significantly reduce those risks. Discontinue therapy and notify the office immediately if you experience any side effects from a treatment.

#### Will 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride leave my hair greasy?

No. The sophisticated proprietary process used to create 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride allows it to be absorbed more quickly and leave no sticky residue common with over-the-counter Minoxidil or other prescription solutions. Applied correctly, there should be little to no impact on your hairstyle.

#### Can I color my hair while using 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride?

Yes. However, hold off on using the topical medication for 2-3 days before you color, and 2-3 days after you color, to prevent the chances of having any type of skin sensitivity or reaction.

#### When will I see results with 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride

Increases in hair growth can be seen as early as ten weeks using a video scalp microscope. Cosmetic benefits may take six to twelve months to be noticeable in the mirror or with photos. As the original, weak hairs fall out, the new, healthier hairs replace them leading to a gradual and ongoing improvement in the thickness and appearance of your hair. You may notice some mild shedding within the first two to four months as the weak hairs are pushed out to make way for stronger, healthier hair. This is completely normal and is recommended that you continue to use the product.

For all forms of non-surgical management, compliance on the patient's part as well as routine medical tracking is recommended to achieve the best possible results. We use intelligent analysis software that generates a precise, scientific measurement of hair loss, hair growth, hair thickness, and "how much hair" is present in an area of scalp.

#### Who should NOT use 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride?

Women of childbearing age should NOT use or come into contact with 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride or areas topically treated with the medication for at least three hours due to a risk of birth defects in a developing male fetus. Like all medications, keep 5% Minoxidil + Finasteride safely out of reach of children. Please refer to the pharmacy product insert for further information.

#### References:

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