

# **NITROGLYCERIN OINTMENT**

## **(low strength)**

**COMMON USES:** This medication is commonly used to prevent or treat chest pain and heart problems. It is also used to help heal rectal fissures and diabetic ulcers. It does this by relaxing muscles and helping increase blood flow. Providers have prescribed nitroglycerin for other uses as well.

**HOW TO USE THIS MEDICATION:** This medication is applied to the affected area, which usually is just outside or inside the rectum. Dosing may vary. Consult the prescription label or your provider for how often you should administer a dose.

Always update your medication list with your physician as this medication may interact with others you are taking.

**POSSIBLE DRUG INTERACTIONS:** Do not use with sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®) or vardenafil (Levitra®) as their combination could be dangerous. Also avoid use with other vasodilator medications.

**POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS:** You may experience dizziness. Always rise slowly from sitting or lying down. Flushing of the skin is also possible as well as skin irritation. Since the medication dilates blood vessels, blood vessels in the brain may also be affected and result in headache. Acetaminophen (Tylenol®) can be taken before using this medication. This will minimize or prevent headache.

**MISSED DOSES:** If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to the regular schedule. Do not take double the dose or extra doses instead.

**STORAGE:** Always remember to put the cap back on the tube when finished using it. Store at comfortable room temperature, avoiding excessive heat and moisture.

Information in this monograph is not intended to cover all possible uses, directions, precautions, drug interactions, or adverse effects. This information is generalized and is not intended as specific medical advice. If you have questions, please feel free to call us here at Bedford Pharmacy.