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| Diltiazem topical |
| Preparations listed in the Drug tariff**Hover the mouse over the £ sign for DT prices** | [**Part VIIIA (hover the mouse here for more info):**](#PartVIIIa) | **DT price** |
| Glyceryl trinitrate 0.4% rectal ointment (Rectogesic) | £39.30 for 30g |
| [**Part VIIIB (hover the mouse here for more info):**](#PartVIIIb) | **DT price** |
| Diltiazem 2% cream | [**£**](#_Diltiazem_topical) |
| Diltiazem 2% ointment | [**£**](#_Diltiazem_cream) |
| Administration in swallowing difficulties |
| N/A |
| Administration in enteral feeding tube |
| N/A |
| Comments |
| Although there are no licensed diltiazem topical preparations to treat anal fissures, these can be prescribed as specials: Diltiazem 2% cream is on BHRUT formulary1 and diltiazem 2% ointment is on Barts health formulary2. Oral preparations of diltiazem are licensed to treat angina and hypertension and are not applicable for this indication. Glyceryl trinitate 0.4% ointment is a licensed product for treating anal fissures, however it is associated with a high frequency of headaches which can be severe and cause people to stop treatment3,4,5. A Cochrane review4 (cited from UKMI5) showed that botulinum toxin and calcium channel blockers (diltiazem and nifedipine) were equivalent to glyceryl trinitrate in efficacy and had few side effects. None of the medical treatments studied approached the efficacy of surgical sphincerectomy but none were associated with incontinence.  |
| References1. Barking Havering & Redbridge University NHS Trust formulary. Last updated July 2019 <https://www.bhrhospitals.nhs.uk/pharmacy-services>
2. Barts Health Formulary. Last updated November 2017
3. NICE Evidence summary. Chronic anal fissure: 2% topical diltiazem hydrochloride. January 2013 <https://www.nice.org.uk/advice/esuom3/chapter/Key-points-from-the-evidence>
4. Nelson RL, Thomas K, Morgan J, Jones A. Non surgical therapy for anal fissure. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2012, Issue 2. Art. No.: CD003431. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD003431.pub3.
5. UKMI Q&A 290.2 ‘How effective are topical calcium-channel blockers for anal fissure?’ prepared 23 January 2013 <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/how-effective-are-topical-calcium-channel-blockers-for-anal-fissure/>
6. Drug Tariff September 2019 <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/drug-tariff>
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| **Please note: full instructions should be provided to the person administering the medicine. This is guidance only and should not determine individualised care.** |
| Author: Vicki Kong, QIPP Programme Pharmacist, BHR CCGsApproved by BHR CCGs Area Prescribing sub-Committees: 26 November 2019 |
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