

**Package leaflet: information for the patient****Diclosal 50 mg/g gel**

Diclofenac sodium

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

Always use this medicine according to the instructions in this leaflet or as directed by your doctor or pharmacist.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your pharmacist.
- You must contact a doctor if your symptoms worsen or do not improve after 7 days.
- If you get any adverse reactions, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. These include any possible adverse reactions not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

**What is in this leaflet:**

1. What Diclosal 50 mg/g gel is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before using Diclosal 50 mg/g gel
3. How to use Diclosal 50 mg/g gel
4. Possible adverse reactions
5. How to store Diclosal 50 mg/g gel
6. Contents of the pack and other information

**1. WHAT DICLOSAL 50 mg/g GEL IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR**

**Diclosal 50 mg/g gel** contains as active substance diclofenac (as diclofenac sodium salt) which belongs to a group of medicines called non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). It is specially formulated to be absorbed into the skin by local massage.

It is used locally to reduce pain, inflammation and edema, in case of painful conditions that affect the muscles and joints.

It can be used in the treatment of the following conditions:

**Adults and teenagers aged 14 years and over:**

- Muscular or osteoarticular traumas of rheumatic nature (for example, sprains, dislocations, bruises, back pain, sports injuries);
- Minor tendon trauma (tendonitis, such as lateral epicondylitis).

**Adults only (18 years of age and older)**

- Mild arthritis of the knees or fingers.

If after 7 days you do not feel better or feel worse, you should consult a doctor.

## **2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU USE DICLOSAL 50 mg/g GEL**

### **Do not use Diclosal 50 mg/g gel if:**

- you are allergic (hypersensitive) to diclofenac sodium, other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen or acetylsalicylic acid or any of the other ingredients of the medicine (see section 6). Symptoms of an allergic reaction to this medicine may include: wheezing or shortness of breath (asthma), skin rashes with blisters or hives, swelling of the face or tongue, runny nose;
- you have skin lesions, such as: eczema, infected wounds, burns, open wounds, cuts;
- you had asthma attack, urticaria or allergic rhinitis to acetylsalicylic acid or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen;
- you have gastric or duodenal ulcer;
- you are in the last 3 months of pregnancy;
- you are under 14 years old.

**If one of above situations applies to you, do not use Diclosal 50 mg/g gel.**

### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Diclosal 50 mg/g gel.

- DO NOT apply Diclosal 50 mg/g gel on mucous membranes, especially to the eyes. If this happens, rinse your eyes with plenty of water and consult your doctor or pharmacist;
- DO NOT apply Diclosal 50 mg/g gel on skin lesions, open wounds, cuts, areas of the skin with eczema or hives;
- If a rash appears on the skin after application, discontinue treatment immediately;
- DO NOT apply Diclosal 50 mg/g gel in large areas of skin and for a long time because systemic adverse reactions cannot be excluded, known for oral formulations of diclofenac;
- if you have had or have gastrointestinal bleeding;
- DO NOT use oral non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs at the same time (including diclofenac).

Diclosal 50 mg/g gel is for external use only. Do not use in the oral cavity. Do not swallow.

An orthosis or an elastic bandage can be used in the treatment of sprains, but do not apply Diclosal 50 mg/g gel under occlusive elastic bandage (plastic).

Do not expose yourself to the sun or solarium while using Diclosal 50 mg/g gel.

**Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before using Diclosal 50 mg/g gel.**

### *Children and teenagers:*

Data on the safety and efficacy of administration in children and teenagers under 14 years of age are insufficient (see section *Do not use Diclosal 50 mg/g gel*).

In teenagers 14 years of age and over, if this product is needed for a period of treatment longer than 7 days or if symptoms worsen, the patient / the patient's parents are advised to consult a doctor.

### **Use of other medicines with Diclosal 50 mg/g gel**

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, or have recently taken or you might take any other medicines, including those obtained without a prescription.

Concomitant use with other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, including products containing diclofenac, may increase the risk of adverse reactions.

### **Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility**

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

In the first 6 months of pregnancy you can use Diclosal 50 mg/g gel only if your doctor recommends it, if it is absolutely necessary and the dose should be kept as low as possible and the duration of treatment as short as possible. Starting with the 6th month of pregnancy, stop using Diclosal 50 mg/g gel because it can harm the foetus or can cause problems at birth.

Diclofenac gel can be absorbed into the blood and passed into breast milk, in the case of women who are breastfeeding a decision should be made whether to stop breastfeeding or stop treatment with Diclosal 50 mg/g gel, given the benefit of breastfeeding for the baby and the benefit of the treatment for the woman.

However, Diclosal 50 mg/g gel should not be applied on the breast of nursing mothers nor elsewhere on large areas of the skin or for a prolonged period of time.

### **Driving and using machines**

Diclosal 50 mg/g gel has no influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

### **Important information about some of the ingredients of Diclosal 50 mg/g gel**

*Diclosal 50 mg/g gel contains propylene glycol.*

Propylene glycol (excipient in the medicine composition) may cause local skin irritation in some people.

*Diclosal 50 mg/g gel contains methyl p-hydroxybenzoate.*

Methyl p-hydroxybenzoate (E218) excipient in the medicine composition may cause allergic reactions (possibly delayed) in some people.

## **3. HOW TO USE DICLOSAL 50 mg/g GEL**

Always use Diclosal 50 mg/g gel exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

### **Adults and teenagers aged over 14 years**

Diclosal 50 mg/g gel is intended for administration to the skin.  
Apply Diclosal 50 mg/g gel in the affected area 3- 4 times/ daily.

### **How to apply Diclosal 50 mg/g gel**

1. Before first use, pierce the sealing membrane with the sharp tip of the lid. Diclosal 50 mg/g gel is used by holding the perforated hole of the tube down. Press the base of the tube (where a fold is inscribed with the batch no.) to obtain the required amount of gel.

2. Gently remove a small amount of gel from the tube and apply it on the painful or swollen area. The dose administered to each application varies depending on the surface area affected (quantity ranging as big as a cherry or a walnut).  
To achieve gel absorption, perform a gentle and lasting massage of the painful and / or inflamed area. You will feel a slight soothing sensation when you massage the gel to enter the skin.
3. After each application, wash your hands carefully, unless they are the area that is being treated.

### **How long you can use Diclosal 50 mg/g gel**

Use Diclosal 50 mg/g gel, depending on the age group you belong, no more than:

#### **Adults and teenagers 14 years of age and older:**

- **14 days** for joint and muscle injuries (e.g. dislocations, stretches, bruises) or tendinitis.

#### **Adults only (18 years of age and older)**

- **3 weeks** for pain associated with arthritis.

Long-term treatment may be recommended by a specialist.

If symptoms of pain and inflammation do not improve after **7 days** of treatment or get worse, you should see a doctor for a treatment reassessment.

#### *Children and teenagers*

Diclosal 50 mg/g gel does not present enough data on safety and efficacy for use in children and teenagers under 14 years of age.

In teenagers 14 years of age and older, if this medicine is needed to treat pain for more than 7 days or if the symptoms worsen, the patient / patient's parents should consult a doctor.

### **If you use more Diclosal 50 mg/g gel than you should**

When administering Diclosal 50 mg/g gel, overdose is unlikely to occur. However, in case of overdose, the surface where the gel was applied should be washed with a large amount of water.

In case of accidental ingestion of a quantity of gel, the amount of diclofenac may be sufficient for the occurrence of an overdose (e.g. 100 g of gel contain 5,000 mg diclofenac sodium); contact your doctor or the emergency department of the nearest hospital.

### **If you forget to use Diclosal 50 mg/g gel**

If you forget to apply a dose of Diclosal 50 mg/g gel at the appointed time, apply another as soon as you remember, and then continue the application as usual. If the time is near the next dose, just apply it. Do not apply a double dose to compensate for the missed dose.

### **If you stop taking Diclosal 50 mg/g gel**

Diclosal 50 mg/g gel is only used when needed. You can stop the treatment as soon as you feel well.

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

## **4. POSSIBLE ADVERSE REACTIONS**

Like all medicines, Diclosal 50 mg/g gel can cause adverse reactions, although not everybody gets them.

### **Some rare and very rare adverse reactions can be important.**

If you have any of the following allergy symptoms, STOP the treatment with Diclosal 50 mg/g gel and ask your doctor or pharmacist.

- Rash on the skin with blisters, hives. These can affect 1 in 10,000 users.
- Wheezing, shortness of breath or tightness in the chest (asthma). These can affect 1 in 10,000 users.
- Swelling of the face, lips, tongue and throat. These can affect 1 in 10,000 users.

Other adverse reactions that may occur are usually mild, transient and harmless (if you are concerned, ask your doctor or pharmacist).

**Common adverse reactions** (can affect 1 in 10 users): rash, itching, redness or burning of the skin.

**Rare adverse reactions** (can affect 1 in 1,000 users): bullous dermatitis, allergic manifestations on the skin with localized itching or redness.

**Very rare adverse reactions** (can affect 1 in 10,000 users): transient rash accompanied by puss blisters, allergic skin reactions, bronchial asthma, especially in patients with allergy to NSAIDs.

The skin can be more sensible to the sun. Possible signs are sunburn with itchiness, swelling and blisters (**do not expose yourself to sunlight while using Diclosal 50 mg/g gel**).

**Adverse reactions with unknown frequency** (cannot be estimated from the available data): burning sensation at the application site, dry skin.

Other common systemic adverse reactions to NSAIDs (e.g. digestive, renal and hepatic) may occur in cases of increased dermal absorption of the diclofenac sodium in the following situations: large amount of gel applied, wide area of application, the presence of skin lesions, long treatment and use of occlusive dressings.

### **Reporting of adverse reactions**

If you get any adverse reactions, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. These include any possible adverse reaction not listed in this leaflet. You can also report adverse reactions directly via the national reporting system, whose details are published on the web-site of the National Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices from Romania <http://www.anm.ro/>. By reporting adverse reactions, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## **5. HOW TO STORE DICLOSAL 50 mg/g GEL**

Do not use Diclosal 50 mg/g gel after the expiry date which is stated on the package after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Store below 25°C, in the original package. After first opening, the product should be used within 6 months. Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

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 to protect the environment.

## **6. THE CONTENT OF THE PACK AND OTHER INFORMATION**

### **What Diclosal 50 mg/g gel contains**

- The active substance is diclofenac sodium. One gram of gel contains 50 mg diclofenac sodium.
- The other ingredients are: hydroxyethylcellulose, propylene glycol, ethanol 96%, trolamine, methyl para-hydroxybenzoate (E218), purified water.

### **What Diclosal 50 mg/g gel looks like and content of the pack**

Diclosal 50 mg/g gel appears as a homogeneous, transparent, non-aerated, light yellow and with a slight odor of alcohol gel.

It is available in packs with a tube of aluminium (Al), sealed with aluminium membrane (Al), closed with high density polyethylene (HDPE) or polypropylene screw cap (PP), provided with a membrane perforation system.

The tube contains 25 g gel, 45 g gel or 100 g gel.

Not all package sizes may be available.

### **Marketing authorisation holder and manufacturer**

Slavia Pharm S.R.L.

44C Theodor Pallady Blvd.,

032266, Bucharest, Romania

**This leaflet was revised in November, 2023.**

### **Other sources of information**

Detailed information on this medicine is available on published on the web-site of the National Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices from Romania <http://www.anm.ro/>