IRISH MEDICINES BOARD ACTS 1995 AND 2006

MEDICINAL PRODUCTS(CONTROL OF PLACING ON THE MARKET)REGULATIONS,2007

(S.I. No.540 of 2007)

PA0148/020/001
Case No: 2053297

The Irish Medicines Board in exercise of the powers conferred on it by the above mentioned Regulations hereby grants to

Allergan Pharmaceuticals Ireland

Castlebar Road, **Westport**, **Co. Mayo**, **Ireland**

an authorisation, subject to the provisions of the said Regulations, in respect of the product

FML-NEO Liquifilm 1mg/ml + 5 mg/ml eye drops, suspension

The particulars of which are set out in Part I and Part II of the attached Schedule. The authorisation is also subject to the general conditions as may be specified in the said Regulations as listed on the reverse of this document.

This authorisation, unless previously revoked, shall continue in force from **12/08/2008**.

Signed on behalf of the Irish Medicines Board this

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A person authorised in that behalf by the said Board.

Part II

Summary of Product Characteristics

1 NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

FML-NEO Liquifim 1 mg/ml + 5 mg/ml eye drops, suspension

2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

	Percent (w/v)	mg/ml
Fluorometholone	0.10	1.00
Neomycin sulphate (equivalent to 0.35% as Neomycin base)	0.50	5.0

3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Eye drops, suspension

White to slightly straw-coloured microfine suspension.

4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic Indications

FML-NEO is indicated for use in the following situations:

In the treatment of infectious conjunctivitis due to organisms sensitive to neomycin.

For the treatment of corneal and anterior segment inflammatory disorders which may be threatened with, or complicated by, organisms sensitive to neomycin.

Prophylactically following removal of foreign bodies, as well as before and after surgery where the possibility exists of infection with susceptible organisms.

4.2 Posology and method of administration

One to two drops in the conjunctival sac two to four times daily. During the initial 24 to 48 hours, the dosage may be safely increased to one drop every hour. Care should be taken not to discontinue treatment prematurely.

4.3 Contraindications

Acute untreated purulent ocular infections. Acute superficial herpes simplex (dendritic) keratitis, vaccinia, varicella, and most other viral diseases of the conjunctiva and cornea, ocular tuberculosis. Fungal diseases of the eye. Hypersensitivity to any of the constituents of the medication.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

Warnings:
In diseases due to micro-organisms resistant to neomycin, infection may be masked, enhanced or activated by the steroid. Prolonged use may result in overgrowth of nonsusceptible organisms.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use (Cont/d)

If sensitivity or other untoward reactions occur, discontinue the medication.

As fungal infections of the cornea have been reported coincidentally with long-term steroid applications, fungal invasion may be suspected in any persistent corneal ulceration where a steroid has been used, or is in use, over a prolonged period of time.

Use of steroid medication in the presence of stromal herpes simplex requires great caution; frequent slit lamp microscopy is required.

This preparation contains benzalkonium chloride and should not be used by patients continuing to wear soft (hydrophilic) contact lenses.

Precautions:

Patients with a history of herpes simplex keratitis should be treated with caution.

Use of topical steroids may increase intraocular pressure. Eye drops containing corticosteroids should not be used for more than one week except under strict ophthalmic supervision with regular determination of intraocular pressure.

Articles in current medical literature indicate an increase in the prevalence of persons sensitive to neomycin. The possibility of such a reaction should be borne in mind.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Corticosteroids may increase the activity of:
Barbiturates
Sedatives and hypnotics
Tricyclic antidepressants

Corticosteroids may decrease the activity of:
Anticholinesterases
Antiviral eye preparations
Salicylates

Neomycin may increase the activity of:
EDTA (apnea)
General anesthetics (apnea)
Other antibiotics (apnea) - Bacitracin, Colistin, Gentamicin, Kanamycin, Polymyxin B, Streptomycin

Neomycin may decrease the activity of:
Oral penicillins
Oral vitamin B12
Anticholinesterases

Neomycin can share synergistic activity with Bacitracin and cross sensitivity with Gentamicin, Kanamycin and Streptomycin.

4.6 Pregnancy and lactation

There is inadequate evidence of safety in human pregnancy. Administration of corticosteroids to pregnant animals can cause abnormalities of foetal development including cleft palate and intrauterine growth retardation. There may therefore be a very small risk of such effects in the human foetus.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

None known

4.8 Undesirable effects

In those diseases causing thinning of the cornea, perforation has been known to have occurred with the use of topical steroids.

Acute purulent untreated infections of the eye may be masked, enhanced or activated by the presence of steroid medication. Secondary ocular infection may occur from pathogens liberated from ocular tissues.

Reports in the literature indicate that posterior subcapsular lenticular opacities have occurred after heavy or protracted use of topical ophthalmic corticosteroids.

Local side effects of steroid therapy, i.e. skin atrophy, striae and telangiectasia, are especially likely to effect facial skin.

4.9 Overdose

Overdosage will not ordinarily cause acute problems. If accidental overdosage occurs in the eye, flush the eye with water or normal saline. If accidentally ingested, drink fluids to dilute.

5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Fluorometholone, a synthetic corticosteroid, has potent anti-inflammatory activity and inhibits the inflammatory response to a variety of inciting agents of mechanical, chemical or immunological nature. Corticosteroids inhibit the edema, fibrin deposition, capillary dilation, leukocyte migration, phagocytic activity, capillary proliferation, fibroblast proliferation, deposition of collagen and scar formation associated with inflammation. Inhibition of histidine decarboxylase by corticosteroids inhibits synthesis of histamine from degranulated mast cells. Corticosteroids also decrease prostaglandin synthesis and retard epithelial regeneration. The mechanism of action of corticosteroids has not been entirely established; however, it is believed that corticosteroids block the progression of inflammation by increasing the resistance of cells to cytotoxic breakdown products in the inflammatory zone.

Neomycin sulphate is a broad spectrum bactericidal aminoglycoside antibiotic effective against a variety of gram-positive and gram-negative organisms, such as Staphylococcus aureus, S. epidermidis, Escherichia coli, Moraxella lacunata, Haemophilus influenzae, and Proteus species. It appears to exert its antibacterial action primarily through inhibition of protein synthesis by irreversibly binding with 30S ribosomal subunits. Its activity is broader than that of bacitracin, penicillin and streptomycin. Neomycin exerts its effect by inhibiting the protein synthesis within the cell itself. Neomycin is not inactivated by body fluids , has no staphylococcal resistance and is stable at room temperature.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Refer to 5.1.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

Not applicable.

6 PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

Polyvinyl alcohol
Benzalkonium chloride
Disodium edetate
Sodium phosphate, dibasic, heptahydrate

6.1 List of excipients (Cont/d)

Sodium chloride
Sodium thiosulfate, pentahydrate
Polysorbate 80
Sodium hydroxide (for pH-adjustment)
Hydrochloric acid (for pH-adjustment)
Purified water

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable.

6.3 Shelf Life

Unopened: 2 years
Opened: 4 weeks.

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Do not store above 25°C. Do not freeze.

6.5 Nature and contents of container

The product will be marketed in a 5ml and 10ml size. Bottle with dropper tip, containing a white to slightly straw coloured microfine sterile ophthalmic suspension. Bottles and tips are made from low density polyethylene. The caps are made of polystyrene. A safety seal is placed around the bottle cap to insure integrity of the product.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal of a used medicinal product or waste materials derived from such medicinal product and other handling of the product

No special requirements.

7 MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Allergan Pharmaceuticals Ireland
Castlebar Road
Westport
County Mayo

8 MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER

PA 148/20/1

9 DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION

Date of first authorisation: 18th May 1976

Date of last renewal: 18th May 2006

10 DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

November 2006