

Venoruton[®] forte tablets

What is Venoruton forte and when it is used?

Venoruton forte contains O-(β -hydroxyethyl)-rutoside which helps to restore the function of the smallest blood vessels (capillaries) by increasing the resistance of their walls and reducing their permeability. In patients who suffer from varicose veins or certain other disorders of the veins in the legs, these small vessels lose too much water, which causes the ankles to swell.

Venoruton forte works by reducing this swelling and relieving the symptoms that generally accompany it, such as aching, tired or heavy legs and cramps. On the recommendation of a doctor or pharmacist, Venoruton forte can also be used to treat haemorrhoids. In the case of haemorrhoids, Venoruton forte produces a rapid and sustained reduction in the swelling of the anal mucosa and relieves the symptoms, which include pain, weeping, itching and bleeding. If recommended by a doctor, this medicine can also be used to treat the side effects of radiotherapy and for certain retinal diseases (e.g. diabetic retinopathy).

What should one consider apart from the treatment?

To relieve the symptoms of varicose veins, it is useful, if possible, to elevate the legs frequently during the day and to raise the foot of the bed slightly. Wearing elastic supports (usually stockings) is also recommended.

When should Venoruton forte not be used?

Do not take Venoruton forte if you are sensitive to the active substance O-(β -hydroxyethyl)-rutoside, similar substances or any of the other ingredients. Do not take Venoruton forte during the first three months of pregnancy. Your doctor knows what to do in such cases.

What precautions should be taken when using Venoruton forte?

You must consult your doctor if the symptoms persist or worsen. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you

- are suffering from any other diseases
- have any allergies or
- are taking or using any other medicines, either for internal or external use (including self-medication!).

Can Venoruton forte be used during pregnancy or breastfeeding?

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, you should not take Venoruton forte without consulting your doctor. Venoruton forte must not be taken during the first three months of pregnancy. If you are pregnant, hoping to become pregnant or breast-feeding, ask advice to your doctor

How to use Venoruton forte?

Adults: 1 tablet Venoruton forte with a meal twice a day.

Relief of the symptoms usually occurs within 2 weeks. The treatment can then be suspended (the improvement usually lasts for at least 4 weeks after the treatment has been suspended) and restarted as described above if the symptoms reappear.

Children and adolescents: The use and safety of Venoruton forte have not been tested in children and adolescents.

Keep to the dose stated in this leaflet or prescribed by your doctor. If you feel that the effect of this medicine is too weak or too strong, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

In the case of *radiotherapy* or *retinal diseases*, follow the instructions of your doctor.

What side effects can Venoruton forte cause?

Venoruton forte can cause the following side effects:

Rare: gastrointestinal disorders, flatulence, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, stomach complaints, indigestion, skin rash, itching, hives.

Very rare: effects ranging from dizziness, headaches, tiredness, hot flushes, hypersensitivity reactions and allergic reactions to circulatory reactions and breathlessness. If you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

What else should be taken into account?

Medicines should be kept out of the reach of children. Store at 15-30°C and protect from moisture.

Do not use this medicine after the date marked after the wording "EXP" on the container.

For further information, consult your doctor or your pharmacist, who have detailed information intended for professionals at their disposal.

What does Venoruton forte contain?

1 Venoruton forte tablet contains 500 mg O-(β -hydroxyethyl)-rutoside as the active substance and excipients.

Marketing authorisation number

42647 (Swissmedic)

Where can you obtain Venoruton forte? What pack sizes are available for sale?

Packs of 30 and 100 tablets are available in pharmacies without a prescription.

Marketing authorisation holder

Novartis Consumer Health Schweiz SA, Bern

This packaging leaflet was reviewed by the drug monitoring authority (Swissmedic) in February 2008.