

# Anusol<sup>®</sup>

suppositories *Soothing Relief*

hydrocortisone acetate, zinc oxide, bismuth oxide, bismuth subgallate, balsam peru, benzyl benzoate

- This medicine is used for the relief of uncomplicated internal piles and anal itching.
- This medicine is for use in adults over the age of 18 years.
- **Do not use this medicine:**
  - If you have had a **bad reaction** to Anusol or any of the ingredients in it. *See section 6* ▶
  - If you have **fungal, viral or bacterial skin sores**.
  - If you are pregnant or breastfeeding.
  - If you are under 18 years of age. *See section 2* ▶

#### ■ **Speak to your doctor:**

- If you have **rectal bleeding** which has not been diagnosed as piles. *See section 2* ▶
- If your symptoms have worsened or not improved within 7 days of using this product. *See section 2* ▶
- **Follow the instructions on how to use this product carefully.** *See section 3* ▶

**Now read this whole leaflet carefully before you use this medicine.** Keep the leaflet: you might need it again.

## 1 What the medicine is for

Anusol Soothing Relief Suppositories help to relieve the swelling, itch and irritation of internal piles (haemorrhoids) and anal itching. It contains the following ingredients:

**Hydrocortisone acetate** is a mild steroid which helps reduce inflammation.

**Zinc oxide** and **Bismuth salts** are mildly astringent and antiseptic. They soothe and protect raw areas.

**Balsam Peru** is mildly antiseptic and has a protective action on sore areas and may help healing.

**Benzyl benzoate** has mild antiseptic properties.

This product is for use by adults over the age of 18 years.

## 2 Before using this medicine

This medicine is suitable for most people but a few people should not use it. If you are in any doubt, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

### **X** Do not use this medicine...

- If you have ever had a **bad reaction** to Anusol or any of its ingredients.
- Do not use on broken or infected skin. Common skin infections include anal warts, genital herpes, thrush and jock itch.
- If you are pregnant or breastfeeding.
- If you are under 18 years of age.

If any of these apply to you, **get advice from a doctor or pharmacist without using Anusol.**

### **!** Talk to your doctor or pharmacist...

- If you have **rectal bleeding** or if you are in doubt whether any bleeding you have experienced is caused by piles.
- If symptoms worsen or do not improve after you have used the medicine for 7 days.
- If you are taking or using **any other medicines** including
  - **corticosteroids** (a type of anti-inflammatory medicine), e.g. betamethasone or hydrocortisone (used in eczema and dermatitis), dexamethasone, prednisolone.

If any of these bullet points apply to you, **talk to a doctor or pharmacist.**

### **!** If you are pregnant or breast-feeding

If you are pregnant or breastfeeding do not use this medicine.

## 3 How to use this medicine

Anusol Soothing Relief Suppositories should be inserted into the anus

- Wash anal area and dry gently with a soft towel before using this medicine.
- Remove plastic cover from the suppository before use.
- Wash your hands before and after using Anusol.
- The suppository will melt after insertion.

### **i** Children (under 18 years):

This medicine is not for use in children under 18 years old.

### **i** Adults and the elderly:

Age	Dose
<b>Adults and the elderly</b>	Insert <b>one suppository</b> into the back passage (anus) far enough so that it doesn't slip out, at night, in the morning and after each bowel movement.

- Do **NOT** take orally
- Do not use more than 3 suppositories a day
- Do not use for more than 7 consecutive days

### **!** If anyone has used too much or swallowed this product.

If anyone has used too much or has accidentally swallowed Anusol Soothing Relief Suppositories, contact a doctor or your nearest Accident and Emergency department (Casualty), taking this leaflet and pack with you.

### **!** If you forget to use this medicine

If you forget a dose, use the next dose when needed. **Do not** use a double dose.

## 4 Possible side-effects

Anusol Soothing Relief Suppositories can have side-effects, like all medicines, although these don't affect everyone and are usually mild.

**If you experience the following, stop using the medicine and tell your doctor:**

- Sensitivity reactions (such as a rash) which occur rarely.

**Other effects which may occur include:**

- Mild irritation or burning on application. This does not usually last a long time, so if this becomes troublesome or lasts longer than a few days, tell your doctor.

The above are mild side-effects, which will usually stop when you stop using the suppositories.

### Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at: [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard)

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## 5 Storing this medicine

Keep out of the reach and sight of children.

Do not store above 25°C.

Do not use your medicine after the date shown as an expiry date on the packaging.

## 6 Further information

### What's in this medicine?

**The active substances per suppositories are:**

Hydrocortisone acetate 10 mg, Zinc oxide 296 mg, Bismuth subgallate 59mg, Balsam Peru 49 mg, Bismuth oxide 24 mg and Benzyl benzoate 33 mg.

**Other ingredients are:** Kaolin light, suppicore BS2

pastilles (hard fat).

### What the medicine looks like

Anusol Soothing Relief Suppositories are white suppositories available in plastic strips with two strips (12 suppositories) in a box.

**Product Licence holder:** McNeil Products Ltd Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 3UG, UK.

**Manufacturer:** Farmea, 10, rue Bouché Thomas, ZAC Sud d'Orgemont, 49000 ANGERS Cedex, France.

**This leaflet was revised June 2015.**

Anusol is a registered trade mark.

### A Healthy Living Plan for Piles Sufferers

#### What are piles?

Piles (haemorrhoids) are swollen blood vessels which occur inside or outside the back passage (anus).

#### Symptoms

Some people have piles without experiencing any symptoms, but sufferers may notice the following:

- **Bleeding:** Although streaks of bright red blood on the toilet paper are not uncommon in people with piles, it may be a sign of a more serious condition and you should see your doctor to check this.
  - **Swelling:** The swollen blood vessels may be felt as a lump or blockage in the anus.
  - **Pain, itching and irritation** in the anal region.
- At least 40% of people suffer from piles at some time in their lives. However, many people are too embarrassed to seek advice or treatment and, as a result, suffer unnecessary discomfort.

Fortunately, there is much you can do to ease the situation and relieve the symptoms.

#### What causes piles?

A number of factors can contribute to the development of piles:

- The most common cause is straining during bowel movement, usually as a result of constipation.

- During pregnancy, the growing baby exerts increased pressure on the anal vessels, which can lead to piles.
- Heredity: you may be more likely to develop piles if your family has a history of suffering.

### A Healthy Living Plan for Piles Sufferers

You can reduce the risk of piles by following a healthy diet and lifestyle that helps to keep your bowels working regularly and prevents constipation. This can also help to speed recovery from piles.

- Eat a high fibre diet including foods like brown rice, wholemeal bread, wholewheat pasta etc.
- Eat plenty of fresh fruit, vegetables and salads.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Don't eat too much salty, fatty or sugary foods such as crisps, burgers and cakes.
- Cut back on the amount of alcohol, tea and coffee you drink.
- Exercise regularly.

A healthy diet and lifestyle will reduce the likelihood of constipation and encourage a regular bowel habit. Go to the toilet regularly and try to avoid straining. Leaning forward from the hips may help.

For external and internal piles, Ointment can be used. If internal haemorrhoids are the problem, Suppositories deliver a measured dose to the affected area.

**For further information, please contact:**

McNeil Products Ltd  
Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 3UG, UK.

