



Where can I purchase Deflazacort?

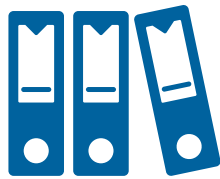
Deflazacort cannot be purchased at a community pharmacy. Refills must be obtained at your neuromuscular clinic appointment.

If you run out of Deflazacort prior to your son's next clinic appointment, call the clinic nurse to request additional medication. A scheduled time will be provided for you to come and pick up the medication.

Medication can only be picked up in clinic or at a scheduled time.

Should you have any concerns, please call one of our nurses at (905) 855-2690, using the appropriate extension numbers:

1. Angela Harris, RN ext. 2421
2. Salina Victor, RN ext. 2431
3. Sabrina Bhathal, RN ext. 2488



SOURCES

Deflazacort Treatment of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy: Doug Biggar et al. Journal of Pediatrics, 45-50, 2001.

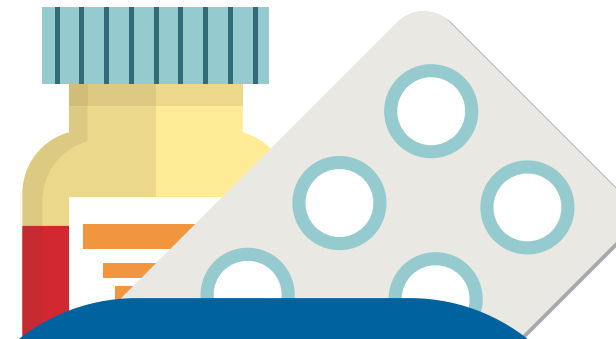
Effects of Deflazacort on Left Ventricular Functions in Patients with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy: Silversides C. et al. American Journal of Cardiology, Vol. 91, 769, 2003.

Steroid Treatment and the Development of Scoliosis in Males with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy: Alman, B. et al. Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, Vol. 86, 519-524, 2004.

A Multicenter, Double-Blind Randomized Trial of Deflazacort vs. prednisone in Duchenne Dystrophy. Muscle Nerve, Volume 23, 1344-1347, 2000.

The Diagnosis and Management of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy: A Guide for Families http://www.parentprojectmd.org/site/DocServer/dmd_us_familyguide_june2010.pdf?docID=10781

Deflazacort Treatment in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. <http://www.parentprojectmd.org/site/DocServer/file name?docID=124>



DEFLAZACORT

use in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

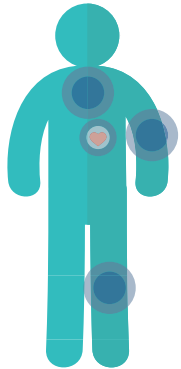


1230 Central Parkway
West Mississauga, ON
L5C 0A5
Phone: (905) 855-2690



WHAT IS DEFLAZACORT?

Deflazacort belongs to a group of medications called steroids (also known as corticosteroids). In Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, a disease that causes muscle weakness and muscle loss, Deflazacort is used to slow the decline in muscle strength and motor function. It is important to note that Deflazacort does not cure Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy but rather slows down the progression of the disease.



DEFLAZACORT HAS BEEN SHOWN TO:

- Help extend the period of mobility
- Delay or reduce the risk of scoliosis(spinal curvature) and the need for spinal surgery
- Preserve lung function
- Slow down the loss of arm function



DEFLAZACORT VS. PREDNISONE

Prednisone is a steroid much like Deflazacort. Deflazacort delivers the same benefits as Prednisone but with fewer side effects.

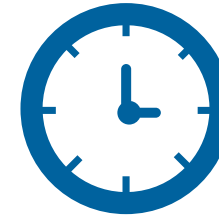


SIDE EFFECTS

Responses to Deflazacort vary from person to person. The key to successful management of steroids is to be aware of the side effects and work to prevent or reduce them if possible. We can work with you and your family to monitor and reduce any side effects that may arise.

Possible side effects may include:

- Weight gain and roundness of the face
- Acne
- Mood changes
- Excessive hair growth on the body
- Growth delay
- Possible reduction of immunity to infections
- Increased sugar levels
- Upset stomach
- Cataracts (note that this generally does not affect vision)
- Decreased bone density and increased risk of fractures



Take Deflazacort in the morning with food.

If your son missed his pills in the morning, give the medication to him later in the day.



PLEASE REMEMBER

1. Always tell physicians or other health care members that your son is taking steroids. This is especially important if your son is undergoing surgery or has some form of infection since steroids can suppress the immune system.
2. Your son should not stop taking steroids suddenly. Please talk to your doctor first.
3. If your son is vomiting and has not been able to take his pills for 24 hours take your son to an emergency department. Tell staff that your son needs a substitute corticosteroid by intravenous until he can take pills by mouth again. Show staff this conversion: **6 mg Deflazacort is equal to 5 mg Prednisone**