



Oral corticosteroids are medicines used to decrease inflammation in the body. They are often used to treat a specific area of the body. However, their effects occur throughout the body. Oral corticosteroids should only be taken if prescribed to you by a caregiver. Doses vary from person to person. It may be dangerous to take a prescription that is dosed for someone else. Toward the end of a prescription, the dose is often gradually decreased.

SIDE EFFECTS:

- Rash
- Blurred vision
- Increased urination
- Unusual thirst
- Mood changes
- Headache
- Indigestion
- Increased appetite
- Restlessness
- Elevated glucose in person with diabetes

PHARMACOLOGY

Oral steroids can be taken through the mouth, in pill or liquid form, and should be taken with food. The same type of medicines also come in injectable form for use in a specific body part.

PREVENTION

- Do not miss or take an extra dose.
- Follow instructions for tapering dose.
- Do not take any new drugs in combination with corticosteroids without discussing with your caregiver.