

Topical Finasteride: Review of Offerings and Warnings Among 'Big 3' Hair-loss Telemedicine Services

Post-Finasteride Syndrome Foundation, March 18, 2023

Telemed <small>All fields based on information collected from respective websites as of press time.</small>	Does digital content contain any editorial content about topical finasteride?	Does digital content make any references to topical finasteride possibly being safer than oral finasteride?	Does digital content cite any clinical studies on the safety of topical finasteride versus oral finasteride?	Does digital content contain any reference(s) to possible adverse reactions to topical finasteride in particular?	Does digital content contain any references to the fact that topical finasteride is not approved by the US FDA?	Does telemed prescribe/sell any topical-finasteride products?
hims	Yes 1. Is Topical Finasteride Effective? 2. Common Topical Finasteride Side Effects	Yes Common Topical Finasteride Side Effects: <i>[T]opical finasteride may offer a better tolerated treatment against hair loss due to its minimal side effects, especially with no links to adverse sexual outcomes. While there have been some small, beneficial studies with evidence to support this, more research is needed over time.</i>	Yes Post 1 cites 4 studies: Finasteride and sexual side effects (2012) A Systematic Review of Topical Finasteride... (2018) Topical finasteride for the treatment of male androgenetic alopecia... (2020) A Systemic Review on Topical Marketed Formulations... (2020) Post 2 cites 5 studies: Comparing the therapeutic effects of finasteride gel and tablet in treatment of the androgenetic alopeciaand... (2009) Pilot Study of 15 Patients Receiving a New Treatment... (2011) Efficacy and safety of 3% minoxidil versus combined 3% minoxidil / 0.1% finasteride... (2012) Finasteride and sexual side effects (2012) A novel finasteride 0.25% topical solution for androgenetic alopecia... (2014)	Yes Important Safety Information: What are the possible side effects of topical finasteride + minoxidil spray? <i>The most common side effects of topical finasteride + minoxidil spray typically occur at the site of medication application (scalp). These side effects include: itching, redness, irritation, burning sensation, contact dermatitis, dry, & flaky scalp</i> <i>If you develop any of the following side effects, please stop using this topical medication and contact your healthcare provider right away:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chest pain • Rapid heartbeat • Faintness or dizziness • Sudden & unexplained weight gain • Swelling of hands or feet • Breast tenderness/enlargement • Unwanted facial hair growth • Sexual dysfunction (e.g., low libido, erectile dysfunction, decreased volume of ejaculate) • Symptoms of depression • No scalp hair regrowth after 6 months of use • Severe scalp irritation 	Yes , numerous references, such as these: <i>Topical finasteride is not approved by the FDA, but there is a growing body of research on its effects.</i> <i>Although it's not FDA approved, topical finasteride may offer a better tolerated treatment against hair loss due to its minimal side effects, especially with no links to adverse sexual outcomes.</i>	Yes Topical Finasteride & Minoxidil Spray
Keeps	Yes 1. Topical Finasteride and Minoxidil Drug Facts 2. How Topical Finasteride Works 3. How to Buy Finasteride for Hair Loss	Yes How Topical Finasteride Works: <i>[M]any clinical studies have shown that the topical form of finasteride may have a lower risk of sexual side effects, such as erectile dysfunction, than the pill form.</i>	Yes Topical finasteride for the treatment of male androgenetic alopecia and female pattern hair loss: a review of the current literature (2020)	Yes Potential side effects: <i>The most common side effects of topical finasteride + minoxidil spray typically occur at the site of medication application (scalp) which can include itching, irritation or a dry flaky scalp.</i>	Yes Can finasteride be used topically? <i>You can find topical finasteride for sale online, but you should know that unlike the tablet, it isn't FDA-approved for hair loss treatment.</i>	Yes Topical Finasteride and Minoxidil Gel, 30 mL
roman	Yes FAQ: Finasteride oral vs finasteride topical	Yes FAQ: Finasteride oral vs finasteride topical <i>A 2018 systematic review of the results of seven different studies concluded that topical finasteride is effective for the treatment of male pattern hair loss but also lowers plasma (blood) DHT levels which can lead to undesired side effects like low libido. Still, it appears that the incidence of side effects was lower with topical finasteride than oral finasteride. Also, some researchers found that plasma DHT levels were only minimally decreased with topical finasteride.</i>	Yes A Systematic Review of Topical Finasteride in the Treatment of Androgenetic Alopecia in Men and Women (2018) A randomized, double-blind controlled study of the efficacy and safety of topical solution of 0.25% finasteride admixed with 3% minoxidil vs. 3% minoxidil solution in the treatment of male androgenetic alopecia (2018)	Yes FAQ: Finasteride oral vs finasteride topical <i>A 2018 systematic review of the results of seven different studies concluded that topical finasteride is effective for the treatment of male pattern hair loss but also lowers plasma (blood) DHT levels which can lead to undesired side effects like low libido.</i>	Yes FAQ: Finasteride oral vs finasteride topical <i>At this time, topical finasteride is not FDA-approved for the treatment of male pattern hair loss and must be specially compounded by a compounding pharmacy and requires a doctor's prescription.</i>	No FAQ: Finasteride oral vs finasteride topical <i>At this time, topical finasteride is not FDA-approved for the treatment of male pattern hair loss and must be specially compounded by a compounding pharmacy and requires a doctor's prescription. For this reason, compounded topical finasteride is not available through Roman.</i>