

**ANNEX I**  
**SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS**

## **1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Verkazia 1 mg/mL eye drops, emulsion

## **2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION**

One mL of emulsion contains 1 mg of ciclosporin.

Excipient with known effect:

One mL of emulsion contains 0.05 mg cetalkonium chloride (see section 4.4).

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

## **3. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM**

Eye drops, emulsion.

Milky white emulsion.

## **4. CLINICAL PARTICULARS**

### **4.1 Therapeutic indication**

Treatment of severe vernal keratoconjunctivitis (VKC) in children from 4 years of age and adolescents.

### **4.2 Posology and method of administration**

Verkazia treatment must be initiated by an ophthalmologist or a healthcare professional qualified in ophthalmology.

#### Posology

##### *Children from 4 years of age and adolescents*

The recommended dose is one drop of Verkazia 4 times a day (morning, noon, afternoon and evening) to be applied to each affected eye during the VKC season. If signs and symptoms of VKC persist after the end of the season, the treatment can be maintained at the recommended dose or decreased to one drop twice daily once adequate control of signs and symptoms is achieved. Treatment should be discontinued after signs and symptoms are resolved, and reinitiated upon their recurrence.

Efficacy and safety of Verkazia have not been studied beyond 12 months. (see section 4.4).

If a dose is missed, treatment should be continued on the next instillation as normal. Patients should be advised not to instill more than one drop for each instillation in the affected eye(s).

##### *Children below 4 years*

There is no relevant use of Verkazia in children below 4 years in the treatment of severe vernal keratoconjunctivitis.

##### *Adults*

The effect of Verkazia has not been studied in patients above 18 years of age.

#### *Patients with renal or hepatic impairment*

The effect of Verkazia has not been studied in patients with renal or hepatic impairment. However, no special dose adjustment is needed in these populations.

#### Method of administration

##### Ocular use

#### *Precautions to be taken before administering the medicinal product*

Patients should be instructed to first wash their hands.

Prior to administration, the single-dose container should be gently shaken.

For single use only. Each single-dose container is sufficient to treat both eyes. Any unused emulsion should be discarded immediately.

Patients should be instructed to use nasolacrimal occlusion and to close the eyelids for 2 minutes after instillation, to reduce the systemic absorption. This may result in a decrease in systemic undesirable effects and an increase in local activity (see section 4.4).

If more than one topical ophthalmic medicinal product is being used, the medicinal products must be administered at least 15 minutes apart. Verkazia should be administered last (see section 4.4).

### **4.3 Contraindications**

Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

Ocular or peri-ocular malignancies or premalignant conditions

Active or suspected ocular or peri-ocular infection.

### **4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use**

#### Contact lenses

Patients wearing contact lenses have not been studied. Therefore, the use of Verkazia with contact lenses is not recommended.

#### Concomitant therapy

Co-administration of Verkazia with eye drops containing corticosteroids may potentiate the effects of Verkazia on the immune system. However, in clinical studies, 18 patients received Verkazia (4 times daily) in co-administration with eye drops containing corticosteroids and no increase in the risk of adverse reactions related to the immune system was identified. Therefore, caution should be exercised when corticosteroids are administered concomitantly with Verkazia. (see section 4.5)

#### Effects on the immune system

Ophthalmic medicinal products, which affect the immune system, including ciclosporin, may affect host defences against local infections and malignancies. Therefore, regular examination of the eye(s) is recommended, e.g. every 3 to 6 months, when Verkazia is used for more than 12 months.

Verkazia has not been studied in patients with an active orofacial herpes simplex infection, a history of ocular herpes, varicella-zoster, or vaccinia virus infection and should therefore be used with caution in such patients.

#### Excipient

Verkazia contains cetalkonium chloride which may cause eye irritation.

#### Treatment duration

Efficacy and safety of Verkazia have not been studied beyond 12 months. Therefore, regular examination of the eye(s) is recommended, e.g. every 3 to 6 months, when Verkazia is used for more than 12 months.

#### **4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction**

No interaction studies have been performed with Verkazia.

#### Combination with other medicinal products that affect the immune system

Co-administration of Verkazia with eye drops containing corticosteroids may potentiate the effects of Verkazia on the immune system. However, in clinical studies, 18 patients received Verkazia (4 times daily) in co-administration with eye drops containing corticosteroids and no increase of the risk of adverse reactions related to the immune system were identified. (see section 4.4)

#### **4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation**

##### Women of childbearing potential/contraception in females

Verkazia is not recommended in women of childbearing potential not using effective contraception.

##### Pregnancy

There are no data from the use of Verkazia in pregnant women.

Studies in animals have shown reproductive toxicity following systemic administration of ciclosporin at exposures considered sufficiently in excess of the maximum human exposure indicating little relevance to the clinical use of Verkazia.

Verkazia is not recommended during pregnancy unless the potential benefit to the mother outweighs the potential risk to the foetus.

##### Breast-feeding

Following oral administration, ciclosporin is excreted in breast milk. There is insufficient information on the effects of ciclosporin in newborns/infants. However, at therapeutic doses of ciclosporin in eye drops, it is unlikely that sufficient amounts would be present in breast milk. A decision must be made whether to discontinue breast-feeding or to discontinue/abstain from Verkazia therapy taking into account the benefit of breast-feeding for the child and the benefit of therapy for the woman.

##### Fertility

There are no data on the effects of Verkazia on human fertility.

No impairment of fertility has been reported in animals receiving intravenous ciclosporin (see section 5.3).

#### **4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines**

Verkazia has moderate influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

This medicinal product may induce temporary blurred vision or other visual disturbances which may affect the ability to drive or use machines (see section 4.8). Patients should be advised not to drive or use machines until their vision has cleared.

## 4.8 Undesirable effects

### Summary of the safety profile

The most common adverse reactions in the clinical trials with Verkazia were eye pain (11%) and eye pruritus (9%) which were usually transitory and occurred during instillation.

### Tabulated list of adverse reactions

The following adverse reactions listed below were observed in clinical studies. They are ranked according to system organ class and classified according to the following convention: very common ( $\geq 1/10$ ), common ( $\geq 1/100$  to  $< 1/10$ ), uncommon ( $\geq 1/1,000$  to  $< 1/100$ ), rare ( $\geq 1/10,000$  to  $< 1/1,000$ ), very rare ( $< 1/10,000$ ), or not known (cannot be estimated from the available data).

MedDRA system organ class	MedDRA frequency	Adverse reaction
Infections and infestations	Common	Upper respiratory tract infection.
	Uncommon	Keratitis bacterial, herpes zoster ophthalmic.
Nervous system disorders	Common	Headache.
Eye disorders	Very common	Eye pain.
	Common	Eye pruritus, ocular hyperaemia, eye irritation, ocular discomfort, foreign body sensation in eyes, lacrimation increased, vision blurred, erythema of eyelid, eyelid oedema.
	Uncommon	Blepharitis, conjunctival oedema.
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders	Common	Cough.

### Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the national reporting system listed in [Appendix V](#).

## 4.9 Overdose

A topical overdose is not likely to occur after ocular administration. If overdose with Verkazia occurs, treatment should be symptomatic and supportive.

## 5. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

### 5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Ophthalmologicals, other ophthalmologicals, ATC code: S01XA18.

#### Mechanism of action and pharmacodynamic effects

Following ocular administration, ciclosporin is passively absorbed by T-lymphocytes where its binding to cyclophilin A inactivates calcineurin, and prevents NF-AT translocation into the nucleus, thus blocking the release of pro-inflammatory cytokines such as IL-2 and hence T-lymphocyte activation. Blocking NF-AT also interferes in the allergy process. Ciclosporin inhibits histamine release from mast cells and basophils through a reduction in IL-5 production, and may reduce eosinophil recruitment and effects on the conjunctiva and cornea. Ciclosporin is also known to up-

regulate the release of anti-inflammatory cytokines. All available evidence suggests that ciclosporin acts specifically and reversibly on lymphocytes and does not depress haematopoiesis or have any effect on the function of phagocytic cells.

### Clinical efficacy

In a 12 month double-masked, vehicle controlled, pivotal clinical trial (VEKTIS study), 169 patients with severe VKC and severe keratitis (grade 4 or 5 on the modified Oxford scale) were randomised to 4 drops of Verkazia (high dose) or 2 drops of Verkazia (low dose) and 2 drops of vehicle or 4 drops of vehicle for the first 4 months (Period 1). Patients randomised to the vehicle group were switched to Verkazia (four times or twice daily) from Month 4 to Month 12 (Period 2).

168 patients [127 children (75.6%) and 41 adolescents (24.4%)] were included in the efficacy analyses. Mean age was 9.2 years (SD: 3.3, age range: 4-17 years). There were more male [n=132 (78.6%)] than female patients [n=36 (21.4%)].

The primary efficacy endpoint which was the average penalties adjusted change of the Corneal Fluorescein Staining (CFS) score from baseline and over Period 1, considered all patients (n=168). Efficacy was assessed every month during the 4 month treatment period and compared with baseline using a composite criterion based on keratitis assessed by the modified Oxford scale, the need for rescue medicinal product (use of topical steroids) and the occurrence of corneal ulceration.

The difference in the Least Square (LS) mean vs. vehicle was 0.76 (95% CI: 0.26, 1.27) for the high dose group and 0.67 (95% CI: 0.16, 1.18) for the low dose group. Both differences were statistically significant with p=0.007 for the high dose and p=0.010 for the low dose group.

Clinical relevance of the primary efficacy endpoint was however difficult to address. In that context, responder rate's results were considered as more reliable endpoint. A responder was defined as a patient 1) with a mean CFS score over the 4 months of treatment  $\leq$  50% of baseline, 2) who did not withdraw from the study for a reason possibly due to treatment, 3) with no experience of corneal ulceration and 4) no use of rescue medicinal product in the last 4 months of treatment. There was a significantly higher number of CFS responders in both active groups as compared to vehicle (p=0.005 for the high dose group, and p=0.010 for the low dose group) with 55.4%, 50.0% and 27.6% of responders in the high dose, low dose and vehicle groups respectively. The excess rate with respect to vehicle was 27.8% for the high dose regimen and 22.4% for the low dose one.

Rescue medicinal product (topical steroids) was used more often in the vehicle than in the high dose regimen: 32.1% in the high dose group and 31.5% in the low dose group received at least one course of rescue medicinal product while they were 53.4% in the vehicle group.

All four symptoms (photophobia, tearing, itching and mucous discharge) improved over time and the difference from baseline at Month 4 for each symptom largely exceeded 10 mm.

For the average of VKC symptoms, the difference in the LS mean vs. vehicle in the high dose group was statistically significant at all time points compared to vehicle: -19.4 mm (p<0.05).

Patient quality of life (Quick questionnaire) improved significantly better in the high dose group compared to vehicle. The improvement was clinically relevant as illustrated by the effect size over 4 months (symptoms domain: 0.67 and daily activities domain: 0.44).

In Period 2, analyses demonstrated stability of improvements achieved during Period 1 for both doses regimen.

## **5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties**

Formal pharmacokinetic studies have not been conducted in humans with Verkazia.

Blood concentrations of Verkazia were measured using a specific high-pressure liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry assay. In 166 patients at baseline from one efficacy study (55 patients in the high dose group, 53 in the low dose group and 58 in the vehicle group), plasma concentrations of ciclosporin were measured before administration and after 2, 4 and 12 months of treatment.

In the high dose group after 4 months of ocular instillation of Verkazia 4 times daily (n=50), 20 patients had values below the lower limit of detection (0.050 ng/mL) and 13 patients had values below the lower limit of quantification (0.100 ng/mL). Quantifiable values not exceeding 0.670 ng/mL were measured in 14 patients, values considered to be negligible. Ciclosporinemia was not measured for 3 patients. At Month 12, (n= 68 patients) values were below the lower limit of detection for 38 patients and below the lower limit of quantification in 10 patients. 12 patients had measurable values (maximum 0.291 ng/mL), all considered to be negligible values. Ciclosporinemia was not measured for 8 patients.

In the low dose group, after 4 months of ocular instillation of Verkazia 2 times daily (n= 47 patients), 34 patients had values below the lower limit of detection (0.050 ng/mL) and 7 patients had values below the lower limit of quantification (0.100 ng/mL). Quantifiable values not exceeding 0.336 ng/mL were measured in 5 patients, values considered to be negligible. Ciclosporinemia was not measured for 1 patient. At Month 12 (n= 61 patients), values were below the lower limit of detection for 47 patients and below the lower limit of quantification in 6 patients. 5 patients had measurable values (maximum 0.300 ng/mL), all considered to be negligible values. Ciclosporinemia was not measured for 3 patients.

### **5.3 Preclinical safety data**

Non-clinical data reveal no special hazard for humans based on conventional studies of safety pharmacology, repeated dose toxicity, phototoxicity and photoallergy, genotoxicity, carcinogenic potential, toxicity to reproduction and development.

Effects in non-clinical studies were observed only with systemic administration or at exposures considered sufficiently in excess of the maximum human exposure indicating little relevance to clinical use.

## **6. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS**

### **6.1 List of excipients**

Medium-chain triglycerides  
Cetalkonium chloride  
Glycerol  
Tyloxapol  
Poloxamer 188  
Sodium hydroxide (to adjust pH)  
Water for injections

### **6.2 Incompatibilities**

Not applicable.

### **6.3 Shelf life**

3 years.

#### **6.4 Special precautions for storage**

Do not freeze.

Store below 30°C.

Keep single-dose containers in the pouch in order to protect from light and avoid evaporation.

Discard the opened single-dose container immediately after use.

#### **6.5 Nature and contents of container**

0.3 mL single-dose, low-density polyethylene (LDPE) containers in a sealed laminate aluminium pouch.

One pouch contains 5 single-dose containers.

Pack sizes of 30, 60, 90 or 120 single-dose containers.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

#### **6.6 Special precautions for disposal**

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

### **7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Santen Oy  
Niittyhaankatu 20  
33720 Tampere  
Finland

### **8. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBERS**

EU/1/17/1219/001  
EU/1/17/1219/002  
EU/1/17/1219/003  
EU/1/17/1219/004

### **9. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORISATION**

Date of first authorisation: 6 July 2018

### **10. DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT**

Detailed information on this medicinal product is available on the website of the European Medicines Agency <http://www.ema.europa.eu>



## **ANNEX II**

- A. MANUFACTURERS RESPONSIBLE FOR BATCH RELEASE**
- B. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS REGARDING SUPPLY AND USE**
- C. OTHER CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION**
- D. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

## **A. MANUFACTURERS RESPONSIBLE FOR BATCH RELEASE**

Name and address of the manufacturers responsible for batch release

EXCELVISION  
27 rue de la Lombardière  
ZI la Lombardière  
07100 Annonay  
France

Santen Oy  
Kelloportinkatu 1  
33100 Tampere  
FINLAND

The printed package leaflet of the medicinal product must state the name and address of the manufacturer responsible for the release of the concerned batch.

## **B. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS REGARDING SUPPLY AND USE**

Medicinal product subject to restricted medical prescription (see Annex I: Summary of Product Characteristics, section 4.2).

## **C. OTHER CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION**

- **Periodic safety update reports**

The requirements for submission of periodic safety update reports for this medicinal product are set out in the list of Union reference dates (EURD list) provided for under Article 107c(7) of Directive 2001/83/EC and any subsequent updates published on the European medicines web-portal.

## **D. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

- **Risk Management Plan (RMP)**

The MAH shall perform the required pharmacovigilance activities and interventions detailed in the agreed RMP presented in Module 1.8.2 of the marketing authorisation and any agreed subsequent updates of the RMP.

An updated RMP should be submitted:

- At the request of the European Medicines Agency;
- Whenever the risk management system is modified, especially as the result of new information being received that may lead to a significant change to the benefit/risk profile or as the result of an important (pharmacovigilance or risk minimisation) milestone being reached.

**ANNEX III**  
**LABELLING AND PACKAGE LEAFLET**

## **A. LABELLING**

**PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGING**

**OUTER CARTON**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Verkazia, 1 mg/mL eye drops, emulsion  
ciclosporin

**2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCE(S)**

A single-dose container of 0.3 mL eye drops emulsion contains 0.3 mg of ciclosporin.

**3. LIST OF EXCIPIENTS**

Excipients: medium-chain triglycerides, cetalkonium chloride, glycerol, tyloxapol, poloxamer 188, sodium hydroxide (to adjust pH) and water for injections.  
See leaflet for further information.

**4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM AND CONTENTS**

Eye drops, emulsion  
30 single-dose containers  
60 single-dose containers  
90 single-dose containers  
120 single-dose containers

**5. METHOD AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

Single use only.  
Read the package leaflet before use.  
Ocular use.

**6. SPECIAL WARNING THAT THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT MUST BE STORED OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN**

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

**7. OTHER SPECIAL WARNING(S), IF NECESSARY**

**8. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP  
Discard the opened single-dose container immediately after use.

**9. SPECIAL STORAGE CONDITIONS**

Do not freeze.  
Store below 30°C.

**10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED MEDICINAL PRODUCTS OR WASTE MATERIALS DERIVED FROM SUCH MEDICINAL PRODUCTS, IF APPROPRIATE**

**11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Santen Oy  
Niittyhaankatu 20  
33720 Tampere  
Finland

**12. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)**

EU/1/17/1219/001  
EU/1/17/1219/002  
EU/1/17/1219/003  
EU/1/17/1219/004

**13. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**14. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION FOR SUPPLY**

**15. INSTRUCTIONS ON USE**

**16. INFORMATION IN BRAILLE**

verkazia

**17. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER – 2D BARCODE**

2D barcode carrying the unique identifier included.

**18. UNIQUE IDENTIFIER - HUMAN READABLE DATA**

PC:  
SN:  
NN:

**MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON BLISTERS OR STRIPS**

**POUCH LABEL**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT**

Verkazia 1 mg/mL eye drops, emulsion  
ciclosporin

**2. NAME OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER**

Santen Oy

**3. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**4. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**5. OTHER**

Ocular use.  
5 single-dose containers.  
Single use only.  
Do not freeze.  
See leaflet for further information.  
Keep single-dose containers in the pouch in order to protect from light and avoid evaporation.  
Discard the opened single-dose container immediately after use.

**MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS  
SINGLE-DOSE CONTAINER LABEL**

**1. NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT AND ROUTE(S) OF ADMINISTRATION**

Verkazia 1 mg/mL eye drops, emulsion  
ciclosporin

**2. METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION**

Ocular use

**3. EXPIRY DATE**

EXP

**4. BATCH NUMBER**

Lot

**5. CONTENTS BY WEIGHT, BY VOLUME OR BY UNIT**

**6. OTHER**

0.3 mL



**B. PACKAGE LEAFLET**

## **Package leaflet: Information for the patient**

### **Verkazia 1 mg/mL eye drops emulsion** ciclosporin

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet**

1. What Verkazia is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you use Verkazia
3. How to use Verkazia
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Verkazia
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### **1. What Verkazia is and what it is used for**

Verkazia contains the active ingredient, ciclosporin. Ciclosporin reduces the activity of the body's immune (defence) system and in this way it reduces inflammation (body response to harmful stimuli).

Verkazia is used to treat children and adolescents aged 4 to 18 years with severe vernal keratoconjunctivitis (an allergic condition of the eye that occurs more frequently in spring and affects the transparent layer in the front part of the eye and the thin membrane covering the front part of the eye).

#### **2. What you need to know before you use Verkazia**

##### **Do not use Verkazia**

- if you are allergic to ciclosporin or to any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6)
- if you have had or have a cancer in or around your eye.
- if you have an eye infection.

##### **Warnings and precautions**

Only use Verkazia in your eye as described under section 3. Do not exceed the treatment period prescribed by your doctor.

Verkazia has not been studied in adult patients.

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before using Verkazia:

- if you have had an eye infection or if you suspect you have an eye infection
- if you have any other kind of eye disease
- if you wear contact lenses (the use of Verkazia is not recommended with contact lenses).

##### **Children and adolescents**

Do not use Verkazia in children under the age of 4 years.

**Other medicines and Verkazia**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are using, have recently used or might use any other medicines.

Talk to your doctor if you are using eye drops containing steroids administered in association with Verkazia as this association may increase the risk of local infections.

If you are using Verkazia for more than 12 months, you should visit your doctor regularly, e.g. every 3 to 6 months.

If you are using other eye drops, use Verkazia **at least 15 minutes** after using the other eye drops.

**Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before using this medicine.

Verkazia should not be used if you are pregnant. If you could become pregnant you must use contraception while using this medicine.

Verkazia is likely to be present in breast milk in very small amounts. If you are breast feeding talk to your doctor before using this medicine.

**Driving and using machines**

Your vision may be temporarily blurred after using Verkazia eye drops or you may get other disturbances with your vision. If this happens, wait until your vision clears before you drive or use machines.

**Verkazia contains cetalkonium chloride**

Cetalkonium chloride may cause eye irritation.

**3. How to use Verkazia**

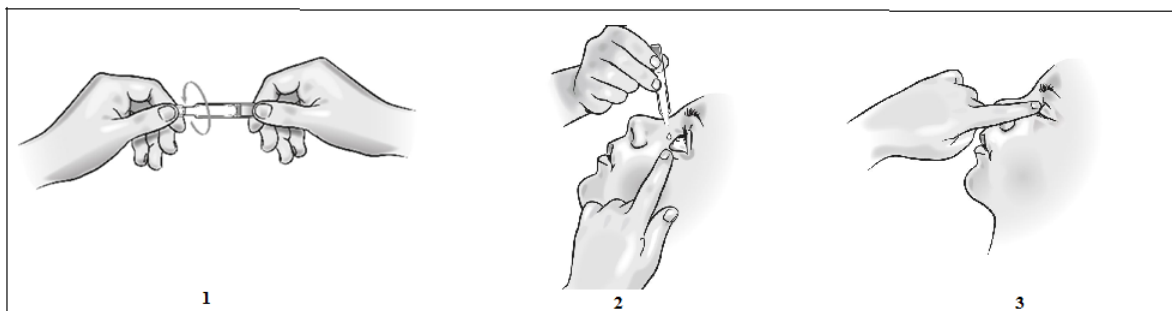
Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

A caregiver should help a child starting Verkazia treatment, particularly if the child is aged under 10 years, and should continue to supervise the child until the child is able to use Verkazia properly without help.

The recommended dose is 1 drop of Verkazia in each affected eye 4 times a day (morning, mid-day, afternoon and evening). You should continue Verkazia as prescribed by your doctor.

**Instructions for use**

Follow these instructions carefully and ask your doctor or pharmacist if there is anything you do not understand.



1. Wash your hands
2. Open the aluminium pouch, which contains 5 single-dose containers
3. Take 1 single-dose container from the aluminium pouch, leaving the remaining containers in the pouch
4. Gently shake the single-dose container
5. Twist off the cap (**picture 1**)
6. Pull down your lower eyelid (**picture 2**)
7. Tilt your head back and look up at the ceiling
8. Gently squeeze one drop of the medicine onto your eye. Make sure that the tip of the single-dose container does not touch your eye
9. Blink a few times so that the medicine spreads across your eye
10. After using Verkazia, press a finger lightly on the inner corner of your eyelid, next to your nose for 2 minutes (**picture 3**). A small duct that drains tears away from your eye and into your nose is located here. By pressing at this point, you close down the opening of this drainage duct. This helps to stop Verkazia getting into the rest of the body.
11. If you use drops in both eyes, repeat the steps 6 to 9 for your other eye.
12. Discard the single-dose container as soon as you have used it, even if there is still some medicine left in it

If a drop misses your eye, try again.

**If you put in more Verkazia than you should**, rinse your eye with water. Do not put in any more drops until it is time for your next regular dose.

**If you forget to use Verkazia, continue with the next dose as planned.** Do not take a double dose to make up for the forgotten dose. Do not use more than 1 drop 4 times a day in the affected eye(s).

**If you stop using Verkazia** without speaking to your doctor, your eye allergy will not be controlled and could lead to long-term problems with your sight.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

#### 4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

**The following side effects have been reported for Verkazia:**

The most common side effects are in and around the eyes.

**Very common side effects (may affect more than 1 in 10 people)**

Pain when the drops are put into the eye.

### **Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people)**

*Common side effects related to the eye:*

Itching, redness, irritation and discomfort in or around the eye including a feeling that there is something in the eye. Increased watering of the eye and blurred vision when the drops are put into the eye. Swelling and redness of eyelid.

*Common side effects which are not related to the eye:*

Upper respiratory tract infection, cough, headache.

### **Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)**

Swelling of the eyelid and of the conjunctiva (thin membrane covering the front part of the eye). Bacterial infection of the cornea (transparent front part of the eye). Eye infection caused by herpes zoster virus.

### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via [the national reporting system listed in Appendix V](#). By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## **5. How to store Verkazia**

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the outer carton, on the aluminium pouch label, and on the single-dose containers label after “EXP”. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not freeze.

Store below 30°C.

Keep single-dose containers in the pouch in order to protect from light and avoid evaporation. Discard the opened single-dose container immediately after use.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What Verkazia contains**

- The active substance is ciclosporin. One millilitre of Verkazia contains 1 mg of ciclosporin.
- The other ingredients are medium-chain triglycerides, cetalkonium chloride, glycerol, tyloxapol, poloxamer 188, sodium hydroxide (to adjust pH) and water for injections.

### **What Verkazia looks like and contents of the pack**

Verkazia is a milky white eye drops emulsion.

It is supplied in single-dose containers made of a low-density polyethylene (LDPE).

Each single-dose container contains 0.3 mL eye drops emulsion.

The single-dose containers are wrapped in a sealed aluminium pouch.

Pack sizes: 30, 60, 90 and 120 single-dose containers.  
Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

**Marketing Authorisation Holder**

Santen Oy  
Niittyhaankatu 20  
33720 Tampere  
Finland

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Detailed information on this medicine is available on the European Medicines Agency web site:  
<http://www.ema.europa.eu>.