



Edition: BP 2025 (Ph. Eur. 11.6 update)

Cetrimide Cream

[General Notices](#)

Action and use

Antiseptic.

DEFINITION

Cetrimide Cream contains the stated percentage w/w of Cetrimide in a suitable basis.

Extemporaneous preparation

The following formula and directions apply.

Cetrimide	5 g, or a sufficient quantity
Cetostearyl Alcohol	50 g
Liquid Paraffin	500 g
Purified Water, freshly boiled and cooled	Sufficient to produce 1000 g

Melt the Cetostearyl Alcohol and heat with the Liquid Paraffin to about 60°. Dissolve the Cetrimide in sufficient Purified Water to produce about 450 g. Add the aqueous solution to the oily phase when both are at about 60° and mix. Stir gently until cool, add sufficient of the Purified Water to produce 1000 g and mix.

The cream complies with the requirements stated under Topical Semi-solid Preparations and with the following requirements.

Content of cetrimide, C₁₇H₃₈BrN

88.0 to 106.0% of the stated amount.

IDENTIFICATION

Mix 1 g with 50 mL of [water](#). The diluted cream complies with the following tests.

- To 10 mL add 2 mL of [potassium hexacyanoferrate\(III\) solution](#). A yellow precipitate is produced.
- Shake 3 mL of [water](#) with 1 mL of 1M [sulfuric acid](#), 2 mL of [chloroform](#) and 0.5 mL of [methyl orange solution](#). Add 2 mL of the diluted cream, shake and allow to separate. A yellow colour develops in the chloroform layer.

ASSAY

To a quantity containing 5 mg of Cetrimide add 10 mL of hot [water](#) and shake gently until dispersed. Add 5 mL of 1M [sulfuric acid](#), 20 mL of [chloroform](#) and 0.25 mL of [dimethyl yellow solution](#) and titrate with 0.001M [dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate VS](#). Each mL of 0.001M [dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate VS](#) is equivalent to 0.3364 mg of C₁₇H₃₈BrN.

LABELLING

The strength is stated as the percentage w/w of Cetrimide.

When Cetrimide Cream is prescribed or demanded, no strength being stated, a cream containing 0.5% w/w shall be dispensed or supplied.