# Flare control creams (usually steroid creams)

## What are they for?

These creams are used to get control of eczema. They are:

• Used to treat flare-ups where the skin is more sore or itchy than normal

• Normally prescribed and are usually steroid creams (topical corticosteroids). Sometimes they are TCIs (Topical Calcineurin Inhibitors)

#### Most people with eczema will need to use flare control creams at some point.

#### When?

Use them as soon as there is a flare-up.

#### **How often?**

During a flare-up, apply a thin layer once a day until the eczema is under control.

## How much to apply?

As a rough guide, put on a thin layer, just enough to cover the eczema flare area.

## How long for?

Use them for two days after the eczema is under control. If you need to use flare control creams for longer than 3 or 4 weeks, then it would be good to discuss this with a health professional.

## Are they safe?

**Yes.** Studies show that flare control creams are safe when used following the instructions above. They should be applied to the affected skin only. They are usually used for just a few days or weeks at a time.