Bismuth Subnitrate, Iodoform and Paraffin Paste - Impregnated Gauze (B.I.P.P. Gauze)

**Composition**
B.I.P.P. Gauze is ribbon gauze impregnated with a bright yellow paste of bismuth subnitrate 250mg/g, iodoform 500mg/g and liquid paraffin 250mg/g.

**Use**
B.I.P.P. Gauze is indicated for packing cavities after ear, nose and throat surgery.

**Contraindications**
B.I.P.P. Gauze is contra-indicated in individuals with a history of hypersensitivity to any of the ingredients in this formulation. It is also contraindicated in individuals with known hypersensitivity to iodine.

**Directions for use**
Pack B.I.P.P. Gauze into the cavity. Leave in place until the wound has healed or graft taken.

The gauze is not recommended for open wounds.

**Precautions**
B.I.P.P. Gauze is for external use only.

B.I.P.P. Gauze may cause redness and stinging of the eyes. Contact with the eyes should therefore be avoided. If contact with the eyes occurs, remove contact lenses if worn, hold eyes open and flush with running water for at least 15 minutes.

Prolonged use or extensive application of B.I.P.P. Gauze may give rise to iodoform absorption and poisoning. B.I.P.P. Gauze should be used with caution in patients suffering from hyperthyroidism.

Prolonged use or extensive application of B.I.P.P. Gauze may also result in encephalopathy or renal failure as a result of bismuth absorption.

Bismuth levels in the body may remain elevated for some weeks in patients with renal impairment. Use of bismuth compounds is not recommended in patients with moderate to severe renal impairment.

**Pregnancy and lactation**
The safety of B.I.P.P. Gauze during pregnancy has not been established. It should not be used during pregnancy unless the benefits outweigh the potential risks. Caution is recommended as sufficient iodine may be absorbed to affect foetal thyroid development and function.

The safety of B.I.P.P. Gauze during lactation has not been established.

Iodine is excreted into the breast milk and may affect infant thyroid function. Topical preparations containing iodine should therefore not be used during lactation.

Bismuth is also excreted in breast milk, but it is not known if it is harmful to the newborn infant.

**Use in Children:**
The safety and efficacy of B.I.P.P. Gauze in paediatric patients has not been established.
**Interactions with Other Drugs:**
No data exists concerning potential interactions of bismuth and iodoform paste with other drugs.

**Effects on Laboratory Tests:**
Use of B.I.P.P. Gauze causes artefacts on X-rays because the bismuth component is radio-opaque.

**Adverse Reactions**

*Neurological:* Rare: encephalopathy, confusion, ataxia, myoclonus, delirium, coma, personality change, facial palsy and insomnia.

*Muscloskeletal:* Rare: bone and joint pain.

*Renal:* Rare: acute renal failure

*Hepatobiliary:* Rare: liver damage.

*Haematological:* Uncommon: methaemoglobinaemia.

*Skin:* Common: contact allergy. The risk of allergic reactions is higher in patients previously exposed to B.I.P.P. Gauze.

*Eyes:* Common: redness and stinging if contact occurs.

*General:* Common: pain at application site.

Liquid Paraffin may be slightly absorbed from wounds giving rise to granulomatous reactions. Prolonged use on wounds should be avoided.

Adverse effects to white soft paraffin found in the paste are rare when used in topical preparations, but sensitivity reactions and acne have been reported following topical use.

**Storage**
Store below 25°C. Protect from Light.

**Poison Schedule**
Schedule 4

**Presentation**

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Size</th>
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<tr>
<td>BIP03051F</td>
<td>B.I.P.P. GAUZE (25mm)</td>
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