How to Use Transdermal Patches

1. Read the patient information for use before using your patch. Each product will have specific instructions for use.

2. Wash your hands.

3. Select an area of skin to apply the patch. Be sure to follow any specific instructions provided by your doctor or the product instructions as to site selection or rotation. Prepare the skin area and make sure the skin is clean and free of any powders, oils, and lotions.

4. Carefully open the packaging. If using scissors, be careful not to cut the patch. Never use a patch that has been cut or damaged in any way.

5. Remove the protective liner according to the product directions. Be sure not to touch the sticky side of the patch. Some protective liners are removed in two parts. If so, place the sticky half of the patch on the area of skin and gently peel off remaining liner.

6. Press down on the patch firmly with the palm of your hand.
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7. Go around the edges with your fingers to press them onto the skin. Make sure that the patch is flat against the skin (there should be no bumps or folds in the patch).

8. Throw away the empty pouch and the protective liner in a closed trash can.

9. Wash your hands.

10. When it is time to remove the previous patch, use your fingers to peel it off slowly. Fold the patch in half and press firmly to seal it shut.

11. Throw the used patch away in a closed trash. Used patches may still contain some medication and may be dangerous to children, pets, or adults.

12. Wash your hands.

13. Ask your doctor what to do if the patch loosens or falls off before it is time to replace it. Generally, you should try to press it back in place with your fingers. If the patch cannot be pressed back on, throw it away and apply a fresh patch to a different area. Replace the fresh patch at your regularly scheduled patch change time.