

Medication Information Card

Nitroglycerin – Patch (Nye – troe – gli – ser – in)

Other names for this medication

Minitran[®]
Nitro-dur[®]
Transderm-Nitro[®]
Nitrate

How this medication is used

This medication is used to reduce chest pain due to angina. It works by relaxing the blood vessels. This helps the heart work better.

This medication does not act right away to relieve chest pain.

How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor or health care provider. It must be taken regularly even if you feel well.

Do not suddenly stop taking this medication without checking with your doctor or health care provider first. This may cause chest pain.

Do not take this medication if you take medication for erectile dysfunction such as Viagra[®], Levitra[®] or Cialis[®].

You can put the patch on your upper arms, upper legs, chest, stomach or back. A patch should only be worn for 12 to 14 hours out of each day. It should be removed after 12 to 14 hours. You need a time when you do not wear the patch for 10 to 12 hours a day. This is called a nitrate-free period.

How to put the patch on

Choose an area of skin that is comfortable for you. Do not put the patch below your knees or elbows.

Clean and dry this area before you apply the patch.

Carefully take the patch out of the sealed pouch. Remove the protective liner to expose the sticky side.

Using the palm of your hand, press the patch firmly on the skin area for a few seconds.

Leave the patch on your skin for as long as you were told by the doctor or health care provider. Most people wear the patch 12 to 14 hours each day.

When you remove the patch, fold it in half before you discard it.

Choose a new place for each patch you put on.

If your patch falls off, fold it in half and discard it. Then put on another patch.

While taking this medication you may notice

- dizziness
- headache

To avoid feeling dizzy, get up slowly when you have been sitting or lying down. If you feel dizzy, sit or lie down until you are no longer dizzy, then get up slowly.

You may take acetaminophen (Tylenol) for the headache.

Contact your doctor or health care provider if you notice

- severe pounding headache
- skin rash
- fainting
- trouble breathing
- blurred vision
- fast heartbeat

To prevent fainting, avoid standing for long periods of time or exercising in hot weather.