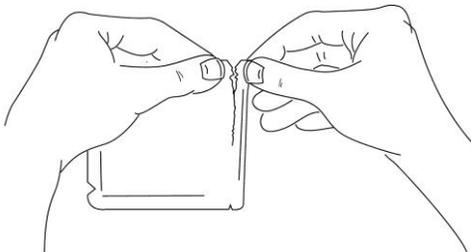
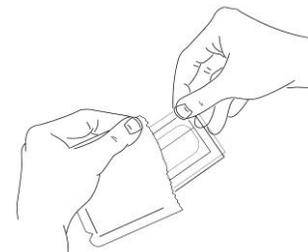


Fentanyl Transdermal Patch (Duragesic®)

Fentanyl (**FEN**-tah-nil) is the generic name for Duragesic® (dur-a-**JEE**-sic). It is used to control moderate to severe pain that lasts all day. This kind of pain lasts for many weeks. This medicine should not be used for pain that lasts for a short time (for example, after surgery or dental work). It should not be used if your child's pain is being treated by other pain medicines "as needed" for that pain. It should not be used for children younger than 2 years of age.

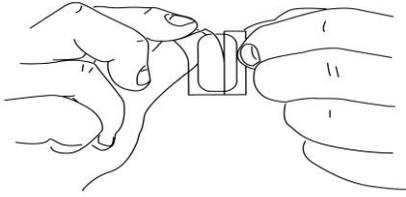
This is a strong narcotic pain reliever. It is used when other medicines do not work. It joins to places in the brain to relieve pain. The patch is put onto the skin and the medicine is absorbed into the body through the skin. Your child should be watched closely until you see how this medicine makes him or her feel.

How to Apply the Patch

 <p>1. Tear the pouch. Do not use scissors because this could accidentally cut the patch.</p>	 <p>2. Remove one patch from the foil wrapper. Use the patch right after taking it out of the wrapper.</p>
<p>3. Prepare - Choose a place to apply the patch on the chest, back, or any flat part of the body where there is no hair. Take care to avoid sensitive areas or places that move a lot (like the inner elbow). Do not put the patch on skin that is very oily, burned, or broken. On a small child, you may place the patch on the upper back so the child does not take it off. If there is hair, do not shave. Shaving irritates the skin. Instead, clip hair as close to the skin as possible.</p>	<p>4. Clean the spot with clear water only. Pat skin completely dry. Do not put anything else on the skin - no lotions, oils, or soap - before the patch is put on.</p>

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How to Apply the Patch, continued



5. **Peel** the liner from the back of the patch.



6. **Press** the patch onto the skin **with the palm of your hand and hold it there for at least 30 seconds.** Make sure it sticks well, especially at the edges.

Important: Do not use the patch while using a heat source. Heat sources include electric blankets, heating pads, heat lamps, hot tubs, saunas and heated water beds. Heat causes more fentanyl to be absorbed faster. This can cause an overdose that can possibly be fatal.

Changing the Patch

- The patch is usually used for 72 hours (3 days). Then a new one is placed on the skin. Your child's doctor may have different directions for when to change the fentanyl patch.
- The new patch goes on a different area of the body. Do not put it in the same place as the old patch.
- When you take off an old patch, fold the sticky sides together and flush it down the toilet. Do not throw away in the garbage can.
- If the patch falls off, throw it away and put a new one on in a different place on the body.

If You Forget to Give a Dose

If your child forgets to wear or change a patch, put one on as soon as you can. Change it 72 hours (3 days) from that time. Do not apply extra patches to make up for a missed patch. Do not let your child wear more than one patch at a time.

Warnings

- If your child is allergic to **fentanyl or glues in the patch**, he or she **should not** use this medicine.
- Do not let your child use the patch when having an MRI. This can cause overheating under the patch and damage the skin. Tell the MRI staff your child uses a patch when making the appointment and again when you arrive at the appointment. Before the test, take the patch off, fold it up with the sticky sides together and flush it down the toilet. Replace it with a new patch on a new site on your child's body when the MRI test is finished.

Drug – Nutrient Interactions

Do not give this medicine with the following medicines, over-the-counter medicines, vitamins or herbal products:

- Other narcotic pain relievers, alcohol, illegal drugs, sleeping pills, anxiety medicine, antihistamines, tranquilizers, antibiotics (such as erythromycin), medicine to treat fungal infections (for example, Sporanox[®], Nizoral[®]), HIV/AIDS medicines (Norvir[®], Crixivan[®], Retrovir[®], Viracept[®] Invirase[®], Fortovase[®]), rifampin (Rifadin[®]), carbamazepine (Tegretol[®], Carbatrol[®]) or phenytoin (Dilantin[®]).
- **Your child should not drink alcohol.** Combining this medicine with alcohol can cause sleepiness and trouble breathing and can be dangerous. Some cold medicines, cough syrups and mouthwashes contain alcohol. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before giving non-prescription medicines.
- Do not use herbals such as St. John's wort, valerian, kava kava, gotu kola.
- Sometimes medicines need to be changed when they are used together. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if your child is using fentanyl (Duragesic[®]) before starting any other prescriptions, over-the-counter medicine, vitamins or herbal supplements.

Possible Side Effects

- Nausea
- Weakness
- Sleepiness or dizziness
- Trouble sleeping
- Confusion
- Constipation
- Dry mouth (very thirsty)
- Seizures (rarely)
- Sweating
- Vomiting
- Itching, rash, redness or swelling where the patch is

What to Do about Side Effects

- Your child may be dizzy because of a decrease in blood pressure. Your child should take his time going from sitting to standing or getting up from lying down.
- If your child gets drowsy or sleepy, do not let him ride a bike or use machinery (such as a lawnmower or car) or take part in any activities where he needs to stay alert or awake.
- Constipation is very common. Encourage your child to drink more fluids and exercise. The doctor may recommend laxatives (medicines to treat constipation) and stool softeners to prevent or treat constipation caused by the fentanyl.

When to Call the Doctor or Get Emergency Help

Call your child's doctor if your child has:

- Trouble breathing; is very sleepy or drowsy with slower breathing, or is short of breath.
- Any side effects that continue or are very bothersome.

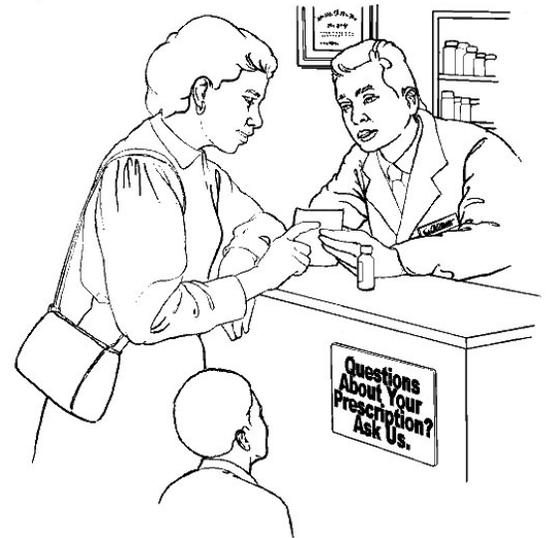
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When to Call the Doctor or Get Emergency Help, continued

- Fever higher than 102° F. Heat sources and fever may cause too much fentanyl to be absorbed from the skin patch into the body.
- Slow, fast or irregular heartbeat. ▪ Swelling of the hands, ankles or feet.

Medicine Storage

- **Store all medicine out of the reach of children.**
- Always keep medicine in the original container from the pharmacy.
- Light and moisture make this medicine less effective. Keep the container tightly closed and store it in a dark, dry place (not in the bathroom or above the kitchen sink).
- Keep this medicine away from heat or direct sunlight.
- Do not use this medicine after the expiration date printed on the container.
- When your doctor decides this medicine is no longer needed, flush the remaining medicine down the toilet. First, fold the sticky sides together (see **Changing the Patch**, page 2).



Picture 1 Your doctor must write a new prescription each time. Give it to the pharmacist **3 to 5 days before** the last dose is given.

Safety Tips and Other Advice

- Do not stop giving this medicine or change the amount given without first talking with your child's doctor or pharmacist. Stopping fentanyl suddenly can make your child sick with withdrawal symptoms. Talk to your child's doctor about slowly stopping the fentanyl skin patch. **Increasing the dose of fentanyl can cause a dangerous overdose** that may lead to death.
- Your child can develop tolerance (get used to) this medicine. Check with your doctor if you feel it is not working as well as it did before.
- Tell your child's doctor and pharmacist if your child has had a strange or allergic reaction to any medicine.
- Some pharmacies may not have this medicine. Please ask your nurse to call your pharmacy before you leave the hospital to see if they have this medicine or can order it for you. You may also have the prescription filled at the Nationwide Children's Hospital Pharmacy.
- Fentanyl skin patch is an opioid. The doctor has ordered this medicine for your child **only**. Do not give it to anyone else. It should be taken only as directed by your doctor or dentist because it can be habit-forming (Picture 1).

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Safety Tips and Other Advice, continued

- Have your pharmacist give you 2 labeled containers if your childcare provider will be giving this medicine.
- If you carry medicine in your purse, keep it in its childproof container and keep your purse out of the reach of children.
- Bring all your child's medicines with you **in the original containers** whenever your child sees a doctor, goes to an emergency room or is admitted to the hospital. This helps doctors who may not know your child.
- Learn the name, spelling and dose of this medicine. Also, teach your child if he is old enough. You will need to know this when you call your doctor or pharmacist.
- **If your child takes too much of this medicine (overdoses), or if someone else takes this medicine, first call the Central Ohio Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222 (TTY 614-228-2272).** They will tell you what to do.
- If a patient thinks she might be pregnant, she should tell the doctor **before** she begins taking this or any medicine. This medicine may harm the unborn baby.
- If a patient is breast-feeding her baby, she should tell her doctor before she begins taking this or any medicine. This medicine can pass into breast milk and cause side effects in the baby.
- When your child goes to the dentist, be sure to tell the dentist your child is taking this medicine and why.
- Tell your child's teacher, school nurse, coach, baby-sitter and others your child is taking this medicine and what side effects to watch for.
- When you take off an old patch, fold the sticky sides together and flush it down the toilet. Do not throw the patch in the garbage can.
- When your doctor decides this medicine is no longer needed, fold the sticky sides of each patch together and flush the remaining patches down the toilet.

Tell Your Child's Doctor If:

If your child has any of the conditions listed below, make sure your child's doctor knows this before your child takes this medicine.

- Seizures (convulsions)
- Liver problems
- Gallbladder problems
- Low blood pressure
- Any heart problems (slow heartbeat or fast heartbeat)
- Hallucinations (seeing or hearing things that other people don't).
- Sudden or severe asthma or other problems breathing

Write down all your questions as you think of them. Take this list with you when you see the doctor.