

CLONIDINE TRANSDERMAL SYSTEM USP

Clonidine Transdermal Patch

0.1 mg/day, 0.2 mg/day, 0.3 mg/day



What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Clonidine Transdermal System USP.

It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you using Clonidine Transdermal System USP against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

If you have any concerns about using this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine. You may need to read it again.

What Clonidine Transdermal System USP is used for

Clonidine Transdermal System USP lowers high blood pressure. The patch contains a medicine called clonidine, which belongs to a group of medicines called antiadrenergic agents.

It works by slowing your heart rate, and widening your blood vessels making it easier for your blood to flow which results in lower blood pressure.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why this medicine has been prescribed for you.

Your doctor may have prescribed it for another reason.

This medicine is available only with a doctor's prescription.

There is not enough information to recommend the use of this medicine in children or adolescents.

Before you use Clonidine Transdermal System USP

When you must not use it

Do not use Clonidine Transdermal System USP if you have an allergy to:

- any medicine containing clonidine
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include: shortness of breath; wheezing or difficulty breathing; swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body; rash, itching or hives on the skin.

Do not use this medicine if you have an abnormally slow or irregular heartbeat.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date printed on the pack or if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

If it has expired or is damaged, return it to your pharmacist for disposal.

If you are not sure whether you should start using this medicine, talk to your doctor.

Before you start to use it

Tell your doctor if you have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.

Tell your doctor if you have or have had any of the following medical conditions:

- heart failure or any heart or circulation problem
- stroke, or transient ischemic attack (TIA)
- depression
- diabetes
- nerve damage such as weakness or tingling in the arms and/or legs
- phaeochromocytoma (a rare tumour of the adrenal gland)
- kidney problems

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breast-feeding. Clonidine is excreted in breast milk and there is little information on how this might affect your baby, therefore it is not recommended to breast feed whilst using Clonidine Transdermal System USP. Your doctor can discuss with you the risks and benefits involved.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell him/her before you start using Clonidine Transdermal System USP.

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you get without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Some medicines and Clonidine Transdermal System USP may interfere with each other. These include:

- other medicines used to treat high blood pressure
- medicines used to treat depression or control mood swings
- non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen
- medicines for heart problems
- alcohol

These medicines may be affected by Clonidine Transdermal System USP or may affect how well it works. You may need different amounts of your medicines, or you may need to take different medicines.

If you are taking Clonidine Transdermal System USP and a beta-blocker (a medicine that slows your heart rate and lowers your blood pressure) and you need to stop using these medicines, then the beta-blocker must be slowly reduced and stopped first before reducing and stopping the Clonidine Transdermal System USP.

Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while using this medicine.

How to use Clonidine Transdermal System USP

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or pharmacist carefully.

They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you do not understand the instructions on the box, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

Patches should be inspected prior to use. Patches that are cut, divided or damaged in any way should not be used.

How much to use

Clonidine Transdermal System USP patches are available in three different doses. Your doctor will decide which patch is suitable to

control your blood pressure. The usual dose is one skin patch per week.

How to use it

Apply the patch to a freshly cleaned, hairless area on your upper outer arm or chest. You should try and use a different area of skin in this region each week when you are applying a new patch.

If the patch comes loose before it is time to apply a new patch, place the adhesive cover provided over the top to make sure it is sticking to your skin properly. The patch should stay in place even during showering, bathing or swimming.

Do not try to trim or cut the patch to adjust the dosage.

When to use it

Try to change your patch at the same time and day of the week. This should help you remember to use it.

How long to use it

Continue using your medicine for as long as your doctor tells you. This medicine helps to control your condition, but does not cure it. It is important to keep using your medicine even if you feel well.

If you forget to use it

If you miss changing your patch for 3 or more days, check with your doctor immediately.

If your body goes without this medicine for too long, your blood pressure may rise dangerously high, causing some unpleasant effects.

Otherwise, apply a patch as soon as you remember, and then go back to using your medicine as you would normally.

If you are not sure what to do, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

If you have trouble remembering to apply your patch, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

While you are using Clonidine Transdermal System USP

Things you must do

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, remind your doctor and pharmacist that you are using Clonidine Transdermal System USP.

If you are going to have surgery, tell the surgeon or anaesthetist that you are using this medicine. It may affect other medicines used during surgery.

If you become pregnant while using this medicine, tell your doctor immediately.

If you are about to have any blood tests, tell your doctor that you are using this medicine.

Keep all of your doctor's appointments so that your progress can be checked. Your doctor may do some tests such as checking your blood pressure from time to time to make sure the medicine is working and to prevent unwanted side effects.

Things you must not do

Do not give your medicine to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.

Do not stop using your medicine or lower the dosage without checking with your doctor.

If you stop using it suddenly, your condition may worsen or you may have unwanted side effects such as restlessness, nervousness, shaking, headache, nausea or fast/irregular heartbeats.

If possible, your doctor will gradually reduce the amount you use before stopping the medicine completely.

Things to be careful of

Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how Clonidine Transdermal System USP affects you.

This medicine may cause dizziness and drowsiness in some people. If

you have any of these symptoms, do not drive, operate machinery or do anything else that could be dangerous.

Be careful when drinking alcohol while you are using this medicine.

If you feel light-headed, dizzy or faint when getting out of bed or standing up, get up slowly. Standing up slowly, especially when you get up from bed or chairs, will help your body get used to the change in position and blood pressure. If this problem continues or gets worse, talk to your doctor.

Be careful if you wear contact lenses, as Clonidine Transdermal System USP can cause dry eyes.

In case of overdose

If you use too much (overdose)

Immediately telephone your doctor or the National Poisons Information Centre (0800 POISON or 0800 764 766) for advice, or go to Accident and Emergency at the nearest hospital, if you think that you or anyone else may have used too much Clonidine Transdermal System USP. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.

Symptoms of an overdose may include:

- slow heart beat
- drowsiness and/or lethargy
- the pupils in your eyes become very small
- feeling cold
- coma
- temporary stop in breathing
- dizziness
- weakness

Side effects

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are using Clonidine Transdermal System USP.

This medicine helps most people with high blood pressure, but it may have unwanted side effects in a few people. All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical attention if you get some of the side effects.

Do not be alarmed by the following lists of side effects. You may not experience any of them.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following and they worry you:

- dizziness
- headache
- drowsiness
- dryness of the nose, eyes and mouth
- confusion
- difficulty sleeping
- nausea and vomiting
- constipation
- skin reactions
- decreased sexual drive
- erectile dysfunction
- larger breasts than normal in men
- pain where the patch is applied
- depression
- irrational or abnormal thoughts
- tingling or numbness of the hands or feet

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you notice any of the following:

- slow or irregular heart beat

After using Clonidine Transdermal System USP

Storage

Keep your patches in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C.

Do not store Clonidine Transdermal System USP in the bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave it on a window sill or in the car. Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

Keep it where children cannot reach it.

A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

Disposal

After removing a used patch, fold the patch in half with the sticky sides together. Make sure to dispose of it out of reach of children.

If your doctor tells you to stop using this medicine or the expiry date has passed, ask your pharmacist what to do with any medicine that is left over.

Product description

What it looks like

Clonidine Transdermal System USP is a peach coloured rectangular patch with rounded corners. The strength is labelled on each patch.

Clonidine Transdermal System USP are packaged with pieces of clear protective film above and below each patch.

Clonidine Transdermal System USP is supplied in cartons containing 4 pouched systems and 4 adhesive covers.

Ingredients

Active ingredient:

Clonidine Transdermal System USP contains 0.1 mg/day, 0.2 mg/day, 0.3 mg/day of clonidine as the active ingredient.

Inactive ingredient(s):

Clonidine Transdermal System USP also contains:

- mineral oil
- polyisobutylene
- colloidal silicon dioxide
- pigmented polyethylene/polyester film
- silicone/polyester film

If you want to know more

Should you have any questions regarding this product, please contact your pharmacist or doctor.

Who supplies this medicine

Clonidine Transdermal System USP is supplied in New Zealand by:

Viatrix Ltd
PO Box 11-183
Eilerslie
AUCKLAND
www.viatrix.co.nz
Telephone 0800 168 169

Date of Preparation

15 March 2022
(Based on datasheet dated 15 March 2022).