

## PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXELON PATCH

You have been started on a new medication today, called Exelon or rivastigmine patch. You will begin by using a 4.6 mg patch that is applied to your skin in the form of a patch every 24 hours. After one month, the dose may be increased to a 9.5mg. The maximum dosage of this medicine is 13.3 mg patch every 24 hours.

### ***How does this medicine work?***

This medicine works by increasing the concentration of a substance in the brain called acetylcholine, which is involved in memory, attention, mood and behavior.

### ***Important Things to Know:***

Please use medication guide included with the medicine *for all instructions*.

Some important things to remember:

- Change the spot the patch is applied every 24 hours.
- DO NOT apply the patch to the same spot for at least 14 days.
- Areas to use to apply the patch are flat, relatively hairless areas of your chest, upper or lower back, or upper arms.
- Press the patch firmly in place for about 10 seconds to make sure it sticks
- The patch can be worn bathing, showering or swimming; but try not to put any creams or lotions on the part of your body where the patch will be
- Replace the patch with a new one every 24 hours
- Remove patch slowly to reduce chance of skin irritation and
- *DO NOT* wear more than one patch per day
- If the patch falls off, apply a new one until the next usual time to change it
- Always wash your hands after applying the patch to your body

### ***Possible Side Effects:***

- About 1 in 10 patients may experience nausea, loose stools, or rarely vomiting.  
About 1 in 15 patients experience vivid dreams.
- About 1 in 100 patients experience an increase in saliva, runny nose, or muscle cramps.
- About 1 in 1000 patients experience slowing of the heart, which can cause one to feel faint, or to faint.
- After you have been on the highest dose you will be taking for 1 month, you should have an EKG performed by your primary care provider.

### ***Patient Follow-up***

2-3 month clinical evaluation with the VA Neurology Memory Clinic.

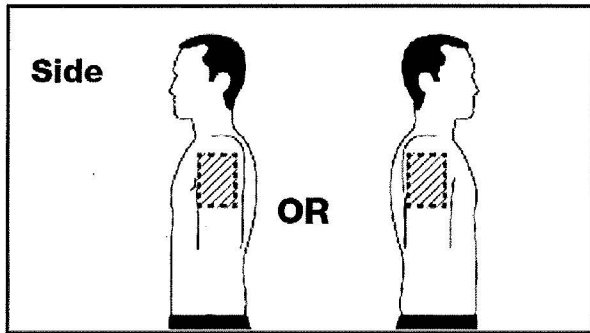
## Patient Instructions: EXELON/RIVASTIGMINE PATCH

This chart shows all the areas on the body where the patch can be placed:

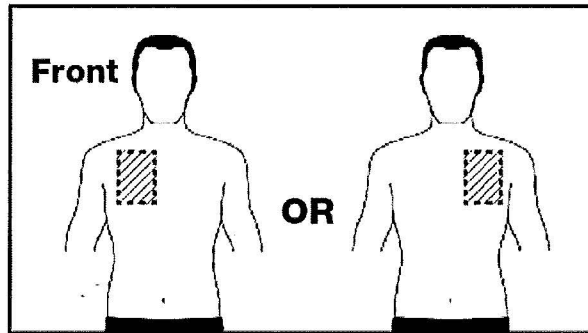
- ✓ CHEST
- ✓ UPPER ARMS
- ✓ UPPER BACK
- ✓ LOWER BACK

*Remember only one patch at a time!*

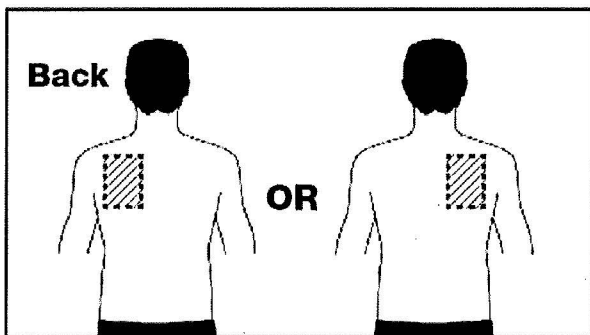
Left or Right Upper Arm



Left or Right Side of Chest

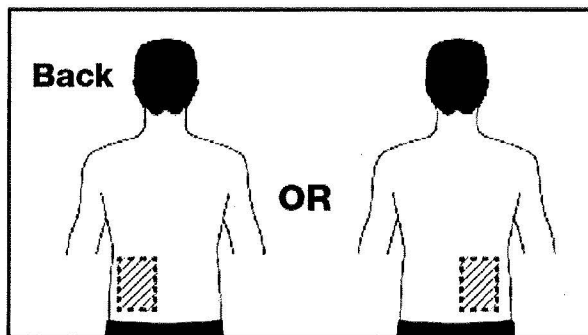


Back



Left or Right Upper Back

Back



Left or Right Lower Back