

## Use Fentanyl with Great Care

Fentanyl is a potent opioid analgesics indicated for patients with chronic severe pain. Inappropriate use may cause serious or life-threatening side effects. Thus, patient should follow the directions for use to prevent death or side effects from overdose.

Here are some recommendations for patients using fentanyl patch.

1. Do not use fentanyl patch on an open wound as this can cause you to receive too much medication. Before applying the patch, ensure the patch is intact as using a damaged patch can expose you to a potentially fatal dose
2. Heat may increase the amount of fentanyl passing into your body and creates a risk of overdose. Therefore, fentanyl patch should not be used with heat pads, electric blankets and heat lamps. If you get a fever higher than 102°F, call your physician right away.
3. Fentanyl patch should be kept out the reach of children
4. Used patches should be thrown away by folding the sticky sides of the patch together

To conclude, patients should be aware that serious problems may result if fentanyl patch is not used properly. It is importance to understand and follow the directions correctly. If you have any questions regarding the use of fentanyl patch, consult your physicians or pharmacists.