


Work Health and Safety: Safe Work Practice: Personal & Medical

Skin/ Transdermal Patch

 Risks	Risk Level	Risk Controls
Injury from incorrect use of Schedule 8 medication	Likelihood: E Consequence: 1 Rating = HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ All Schedule 8 medication to be stored in a locked box</li> <li>☑ Two Community Care Assistants (CCAs) who have completed the relevant Safe Work Practice must be rostered for a shifts where support or assistance with Schedule 8 medication is provided.</li> <li>☑ The two rostered CCAs are to double check all aspects of the supply, use, recording and storage of the medication.</li> <li>☑ The two rostered CCAs are to consult with the Coordinator if there is anything unusual about the medication or the client</li> </ul>
Inappropriate use of used patches	Likelihood: E Consequence: 1 Rating = HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Upon removal of used patch, fold patch in half , so it folds onto itself and press firmly together to seal it shut</li> <li>☑ Make sure patch is disposed of well</li> <li>☑ All S8 patches to be disposed of in sharps container</li> <li>☑ Be aware used patches can still contain enough medicine to cause severe side effects or even be fatal to a child or pet</li> </ul>
Injury due to dizziness or drowsiness	Likelihood: D Consequence: 3 Rating = MODERATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Do not use if seal is broken or patch is cut, damaged or changed in any way.</li> <li>☑ Client to be advised not to drive or engage in tasks that require alertness</li> <li>☑ If client has just showered or bathed need to wait for skin to cool before applying patch</li> <li>☑ Client to be setup in bed or in a chair with needed items close by</li> <li>☑ Dose should not be changed/stopped without doctor’s instruction</li> <li>☑ Ensure client is aware they must not raise their body temperature while wearing the patch by using: excess activity; heating pads, electric blankets; heat lamps; saunas; hot tubs; heated waterbeds; hot baths; sun bath.</li> <li>☑ Client told to see doctor if get they get a fever above 38.9° C (102°F) - as this will cause too much of the drug to move into your body.</li> <li>☑ Ensure clients knows that a new patch is needed if it falls off before 72 hours and that they should not wear more than one patch at one time unless prescribed.</li> </ul>
Allergic or extreme reactions to medication <i>(e.g., weak/shallow breathing; severe weakness; vomiting; cold clammy skin; swelling of</i>	Likelihood: C Consequence: 4 Rating = MODERATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Do not use if seal is broken or patch is cut, damaged or changed in any way.</li> <li>☑ Dose should not be changed/stopped without doctor’s instruction</li> <li>☑ Ensure client is aware they must not raise their body temperature while wearing the patch by using: heating pads, electric blankets; heat lamps; saunas; hot tubs; heated waterbeds; hot baths; sun bath.</li> <li>☑ Client told to see doctor if get they get a fever above 38.9° C (102°F) - as this will cause too much of the drug to move into your body.</li> </ul>

facelips, tongue, or throat)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensure clients knows that a new patch is needed if it falls off before 72 hours and that they should not wear more than one patch at one time unless prescribed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consult medical advice if symptoms persist
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Equipment required:**

<i>Mercy Services equipment</i>	<i>Others equipment</i>
mobile phone, hyperfix, sharps container <b>Personal Protective Equipment required:</b> disposable gloves	Transdermal patch

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Worker behaviour</b>	<b>Client/other's behaviour</b>
1. Preparation	a. Worker(s) ensure identity of the client/resident ( <i>Waits until second worker is available if schedule 8 medication involved</i> ) b. Worker will explain what they are here to do and ask clients permission before gathering medicine etc c. Worker to wash hands and apply gloves	Clients should have pain relief patch available
2. Safety check	a. Worker(s) check Care Plan/Carelink+ mobile note for instructions. b. Worker(s) check the patch container to ensure correct client, correct medication, correct dosage and expiry date. c. Worker(s) check date that patch needs changing from Carelink+ mobile note, Medication Checklist and date on the current patch. d. Worker(s) check where patch has previously been applied (sites should be rotate across the torso/ upper arms, according to product instructions) e. Ensure client is ready to have medication applied f. Explain procedure for applying the patch and what the client needs to do to assist you. g. Worker(s) ensure previous patch is removed. Peel off one corner and pull patch away smoothly from the skin, remove any glue or residue with warm soapy water Worker(s) check the skin where the old patch was for irritation. If there is any sign of allergy such as a rash, blisters, weeping or pain the Coordinator must be contacted prior to proceeding.	Client to do as much of the preparation and checking as possible.  Client to provide worker with information on their current situation
3. Apply patch	a. Worker(s) choose a suitable location for the patch – chest/ back; torso or upper arms which is flat, intact skin, hairless, not subject to excessive movement. Prepare skin area ensure free from moisturiser; creams and powders. Do not apply patch to broken or irritated	Client to do as much of the applying of patch as possible.  Client to provide worker with

Activity	Worker behaviour	Client/other's behaviour
	<p>skin or spots. If client has cognitive deficit place patch where client unlikely to be able to reach.</p> <p>b. Wash skin where patch will be applied with water, ensuring soap is rinsed well off skin and ensure area is dry.</p> <p>c. Have client open packaging carefully and remove protective liner <b>OR</b> if client not able to worker to do so.</p> <p>d. Apply patch. Once patch is applied press firmly with the palm of your hand to ensure a good seal between adhesive and person skin. Run your finger around the edge of the patch to make sure it is fully sealed and flat against the skin (there should be no bumps or folds in the patch). If patch is not sticking apply first aid tape only to edges of patch as directed by Coordinator - never cover with a bandage or other type of tape</p> <p>e. Worker(s) write their initials and date of application on the patch and on the hyperfix covering patch.</p> <p>f. Check client comfortable after patch applied.</p>	<p>information on their current situation</p>
4. After procedure	<p>a. Dispose of packaging.</p> <p>b. Worker(s) dispose of used patch by folding it in half, so it folds onto itself and press firmly together to seal it shut and place in rubbish bin (<i>Used schedule 8 patches area are put in a sharps container</i>).</p> <p>c. Worker(s) replace unused patches to safe storage.</p> <p>d. Worker(s) document on Communication Sheet and Medication checklist: the date, time and location of the patch (<i>use note section of medication checklist to specify location</i>).</p> <p>e. Report any issues to Coordinator.</p> <p>f. Contact Poisons Information Centre - phone 13 1126 – if there are concerns of incorrect dose or substance</p>	<p>Client to do as much of the cleaning up as possible.</p> <p>Client to provide worker with information on their current situation</p>
5. Follow-up	<p>a. Report any incident to your Coordinator immediately and then document details</p>	

As at 11/07/2016 this Safe Work Practice is authorised for use in:

<i>Service</i>	<i>Position</i>
HCP, HSP and/or NDIS	Community Care Assistant

Date for review of safe work practice: July 2019 (or if injury or changes require)

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## COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT

### Transdermal Patch

Employee \_\_\_\_\_

Assessor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Desired Outcome:**

Staff/volunteers can apply a transdermal patch without harming anyone.

Performance Criteria	Competence demonstrated	Comment
<b>1. Preparation</b>		
a) Worker(s) ensure identity of client/resident ( <i>Waits until second worker is available if schedule 8 medication involved</i> )		
b) Worker explains why they are here and asks clients permission before gathering medicine etc.		
c) Worker washes hands and applies gloves		
<b>2. Safety Check</b>		
a) Worker(s) checks Care Plan/Carelink mobile note for instructions		
b) Worker(s) check the instructions on the patch container and Medication Checklist to ensure correct: client, medication, dosage and expiry/new patch date		
c) Worker(s) check date that patch needs changing		
d) Worker(s) check where patch has previously been applied (sites should be rotate across the upper arms/ torso and back and according to product instructions )		
e) Ensures client is ready to have medication applied		
f) Explains procedure for applying the patch and what the client needs to do to assist		
g) Worker(s) ensure previous patch is removed or removes by peeling off one corner and pull patch away smoothly from the skin, remove any glue or residue with warm soapy water		
h) Worker(s) check the skin where the old patch was for irritation.		
<b>3. Apply patch</b>		
a) Worker(s) choose appropriate place for patch		
b) Washes skin where patch will be applied with water, ensures soap is rinsed well off skin and ensures area is dry.If client has just had a bath /shower wait for skin to cool down before applying patch		
c) Has client open packaging and remove protective liner <b>OR</b> if client not able to worker does so. Carefully open the packaging with fingers, do not use scissors		
d) Applies patch. Prepare skin area, ensure free from moisturiser; creams or powders or irritated or broken skin. If patch is not sticking applies first		

Performance Criteria	Competence demonstrated	Comment
aid tape only to edges of patch - Never covers with a bandage or other type of tape. Run your finger around the edge of the patch to make sure it is fully sealed and flat against the skin (there should be no bumps or folds in the patch).		
e) Worker(s) write initials and date on patch and on the hyperfix covering patch		
f) Checks client comfortable after patch applied		
<b>4. After procedure</b>		
a) Worker(s) dispose of packaging		
b) Worker(s) dispose of used patch by folding sticky sides together and placing in rubbish bin ( <i>Used schedule 8 patches are a put in a sharps container</i> ).		
c) Worker(s) replace unused patches to locked storage if S8, otherwise to safe storage		
d) Worker(s) document details on Medication Checklist and Communication Sheet		
e) Reports any issues to Coordinator		
f) Contacts Poisons Information Centre, if there are concerns of incorrect dose or substance		
<b>5. Follow-up</b>		
a) Reports any incident to Coordinator immediately and then document		

Is the worker assessed as being competent?  YES  NO

Any required follow up action/training: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of employee..... Date.....

Signature of assessor ..... Date.....