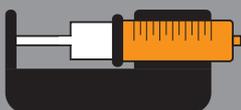




Skin Care Instructions



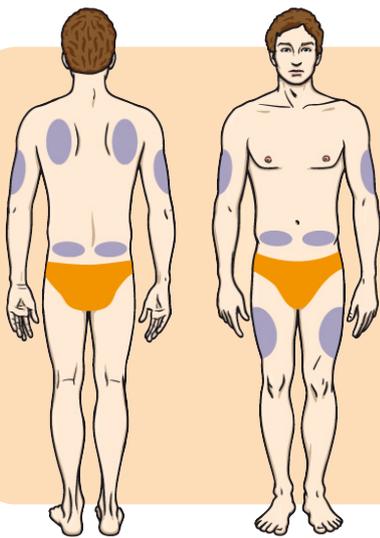
SUBCUTANEOUS USE

Dacepton[®]
Apomorphine Hydrochloride

Skin Care

Dacepton® offers improved disease management when oral medication is failing and motor fluctuations cannot be controlled any longer. Continuous infusion is a therapeutic strategy to optimise the absorption of your PD medication. The primary treatment goal is to reduce the frequency and duration of “off” periods.

Although apomorphine is rapidly absorbed from subcutaneous tissue, it can pool in the skin causing nodules. Nodule formation is usually not a significant problem and can be improved with the following instructions of this brochure.



WHERE CAN APOMORPHINE BE INJECTED?

Apomorphine should be injected into the fatty tissue underneath the skin. Commonly used sites include

- the outer thighs and
- tummy (below the belly button).

Injection sites should be changed daily to prevent skin irritation.

WHAT ARE SKIN NODULES?

A side effect of apomorphine therapy can be redness, tenderness, itching and development of nodules and/or hardening of the skin at the injection site. These reactions often resolve with time, but in some cases, these tissue changes may make insertion of the infusion needle difficult, and may affect absorption of the drug.

WHAT CAUSES THEM?

Histological studies have concluded that apomorphine nodules are a form of panniculitis – a local inflammatory reaction in the subcutaneous tissue. This irritation, which can vary strongly between individuals, sometimes occurs in response to the medication or the needle.

HOW COMMON ARE SKIN NODULES WITH APOMORPHINE TREATMENT?

Although apomorphine is rapidly absorbed from subcutaneous tissue, in some instances skin nodules may occur. The development of nodules is usually not a significant problem, but occasionally, if severe, can lead to erratic absorption of the drug and may compromise therapeutic effects. Any nodule formation can be improved with strict rotation of the injection site used and improved skin hygiene.

HOW CAN POTENTIAL NODULE DEVELOPMENT BE REDUCED?

- **Hygiene is absolutely important.** Injection site should be **changed daily** and kept clean and hygienic. Suitable sites are the outer thighs and tummy (below the belly button).
 - **Massaging the skin** either manually or using massage equipment between three to five minutes before and after removal of the needle.
 - **Some patients will find ultrasound useful**, although the mechanism of action is not fully understood and evidence is not proved.
 - **„Dry“ puncture**
Experienced apomorphine patients stop the priming process of the catheter tube earlier than recommended to prevent the needle from being wetted with apomorphine. Please ask your PD specialist.
 - **Do not inject into an area where the skin is sore, red, or infected.**
 - **Pump preparation**
Prepare the Pump on a surface recently cleaned with an antibacterial/antiviral product or use a recently cleaned designated preparation tray (provided free of charge by EVER Neuro Pharma GmbH). If you don't have a preparation tray and you would like have one, please contact your Parkinson's disease specialist.
 - **Dressings with adhesive foil**
Once the infusion line has been inserted, dressings* - like an adhesive foil - are recommended because:
 - they prevent bacterial infection
 - transparent dressings allow visual access to the site, so that site reactions and needle displacement can be seen
 - if there is a reaction to the dressing, a hypoallergenic dressing tape can be used instead
- * Catheters of EVER Parkinson Treatment Sets have the dressing incorporated.

Skin Care

HOW CAN EXISTING NODULES BE TREATED?

- **Massage**
Individual experience suggests that massage may be helpful 3-5 minutes before and after injection to stimulate local blood flow. Some people have found benefit from using a hand-held massage machine
- **Hold a cold compress to inflamed skin**
- **Silicone gel patches** applied after removal of catheter
- **Special ointment** (please ask your PD specialist)
- **Ultrasound**
- **Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation**

SHOULD SKIN NODULES STOP TREATMENT?

No. Skin nodules although common, present no significant problems in most cases.

If you have any questions or queries arising from skin problems, please speak to your Parkinson's disease specialist or contact EVER Neuro Pharma.

EVER Neuro Pharma GmbH
Oberburgau 3, 4866 Unterach/Austria
www.everpharma.com