



ANIMAL SURGICAL
— & ORTHOPEDIC CENTER —
A BETTER WAY TO OPERATE + SINCE 1986

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FENTANYL TRANSDERMAL PATCH INSTRUCTIONS

What is a fentanyl transdermal patch?

The fentanyl patch sticks to the pet's skin and slowly releases a constant amount of pain medication that is absorbed into the bloodstream, providing several days of pain relief.

It is very important that you do not allow your pet to lick or chew at the fentanyl patch site or the bandage that covers it while the patch is on, and for 6 hours after its removal.

When should I remove the patch?

The patch is generally removed 3-5 days after it was applied. The date for removal will be on your discharge instructions.

How do I remove the patch?

Carefully cut away or unwrap the bandage that covers it and pull the patch off like a band aid. You may apply a small amount of mineral oil or olive oil around the edges of the patch as this will make it easier to remove. Fold the patch in half, place in coffee grounds, used cat litter or other unfriendly substance, secure in a plastic bag and place in the trash. **Do not attempt to clean the patch site for 6 hours after removal and do not allow your pet to lick at the site during that time.** After removing the patch, some animals may experience a transient reaction, including panting, whining, weakness or vomiting. If you are concerned, or if these symptoms do not subside within 30 minutes, please call our office or your local veterinary emergency clinic.

What side effects of fentanyl might occur in my pet?

NORMAL SIDE EFFECTS:

Dogs : • Increased whining and panting
• Decreased appetite
• Mild constipation

Cats: • Dilated pupils
• Behavior changes
• Restlessness
• Friendliness

CONCERNING SIDE EFFECTS – call our office if your pet:

- Refuses to eat any food
- Vomits or regurgitates for more than 6 hours
- Seems excessively anxious, vocal or restless

VERY CONCERNING – call our office or your local veterinary emergency clinic right away if your pet is:

- Very lethargic, unable to rise
- Disoriented
- Stumbling

If your pet is eating well, and has not defecated with 48 hours of returning home, you may add a small amount of canned pumpkin (1/8 cup per 10 lbs.), or the OTC medication Miralax (1/4 tsp. per 10 lbs.) to your pet's food twice per day to help with constipation. Please call our office with any dosing questions.

CAUTION: Keep the patch away from other pets and children, as the patch can be harmful or fatal if chewed, swallowed or handled. If this occurs, seek medical attention immediately.