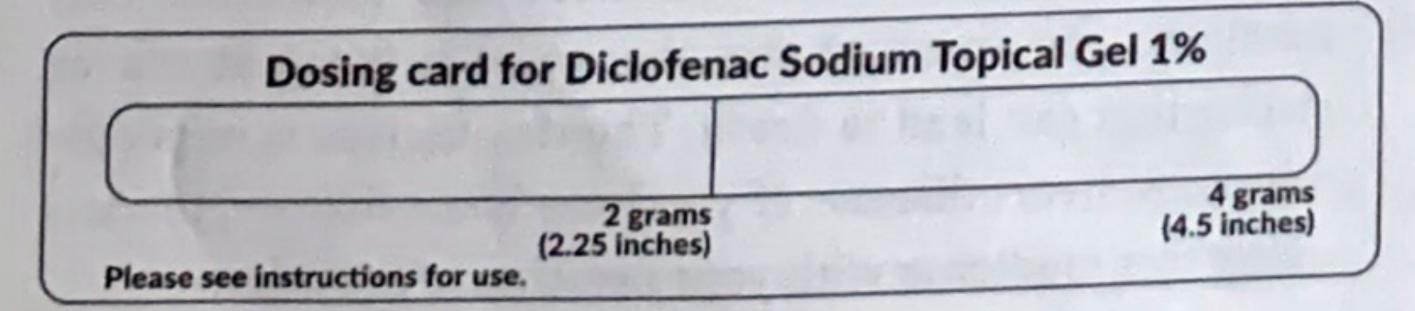
- This medicine can cause ulcers and bleeding in the stomach and intestines at any time during treatment. Call your healthcare provider right away if you notice red or black stools that look like tar, or if you cough or vomit blood or material that looks like coffee grounds. The risk is highest if you use higher doses, and when used long-term. To help reduce the risk, limit alcohol use while taking this medicine, and use the lowest possible dose for the shortest possible time. This medicine should not be used with steroids (such as prednisone) or anticoagulants (such as warfarin, *Pradaxa* or *Xarelto*). There are some exceptions in very high risk (clotting) patients who use both aspirin and warfarin but in general, using them together is not recommended.
- Do not use after coronary heart surgery, unless you have been instructed to do so by your healthcare provider. Do not use this medicine before any elective surgery.
- Take with food if this medicine upsets your stomach.
- Do not use this medicine if you have experienced breathing problems or allergic-type reactions after taking aspirin or other NSAIDs.
- This medicine can raise your blood pressure. If you have high blood pressure, you will need to check your blood pressure regularly; contact your prescriber with an increase in your blood pressure.
- This medicine can cause fluid and water to accumulate, particularly in your ankles. If you have heart disease, discuss use of this medicine with your healthcare provider and monitor your weight.
- This drug can make you sensitive to the sun. Limit sun exposure.
- Do not use this medicine if you are pregnant without discussing with your healthcare provider.

# Diclofenac Gel

- Use the dosing card inside the package to correctly measure each dose. The dosing card is reusable so do not throw it away. Do not use more than 32 grams total of diclofenac gel each day. You should add up the amount applied to each area to make sure it is less than 32 grams:
  - The dose for your hands, wrists, or elbows is 2 grams with each application; apply four times daily and do not exceed 8 grams each day to these areas.



- The dose for your feet, ankles, or knees is 4 grams with each application; apply four times daily but do not exceed more than 16 grams each day to these areas.
- Place the dosing card on a flat surface so you can read the print. Squeeze diclofenac gel onto the dosing card evenly; cover the 2 gram or 4 gram dosing area up to the dosing line.
- Using the dosing card, apply the gel to clean, dry skin that does not have any cuts or open wounds; then gently rub the gel into the skin with your hands, making sure to cover the affected area fully.
- Do not shower, bathe or wash your treated hands for at least one hour after application.

# Ketorolac Nasal Spray

- Each Sprix bottle has enough medicine for one day. Throw away any remaining medication 24 hours after opening.
- Each bottle must be <u>primed</u> five times <u>prior to first use</u>. No additional priming is needed if additional doses are used.
- Store unopened bottles in the refrigerator. Open bottles can be kept at room temperature.

#### **OPIOIDS**

- Do not crush, chew, break or open controlled-release forms. Breaking them would cause too much drug to be released into your blood at one time.
- Kadian must be swallowed whole or can be opened and the entire bead contents sprinkled on a small amount of applesauce immediately prior to ingestion. The beads must not be chewed, crushed, or dissolved due to the risk of exposure to a potentially toxic dose of morphine.
- Avoid alcohol with all opioids, especially these formulations: Kadian, Embeda, Zohydro and Nucynta ER.
- To ensure that you get a correct dose, measure liquid forms with a special dose-measuring spoon or cup, not with a regular tablespoon. If you do not have a dose-measuring device, ask your pharmacist.
- This medicine will cause <u>drowsiness</u> and <u>fatigue</u>. <u>Avoid alcohol</u>, <u>sleeping pills</u>, <u>antihistamines</u>, <u>sedatives and tranquilizers</u> that can also make you drowsy, except under the supervision of your healthcare provider.
- Take with a full glass of water. Take with food or milk if it upsets your stomach. Exception: Opana should be taken on an empty stomach.
- Do not stop taking suddenly if you have been taking it continuously for more than 5 7 days. If you want to stop, your healthcare provider will help you gradually reduce the dose.

- This medicine is <u>constipating</u>. Increase the amount of fiber and water (at least six to eight full glasses daily) in your diet to prevent constipation (if not fluid restricted due to heart failure). Your pharmacist or healthcare provider will recommend a stronger agent for constipation if this is not adequate.
- Do not share this medication with anyone else.
- Never take more pain medicine than prescribed. If your pain is not being adequately treated, talk to your healthcare provider.

## **Fentanyl Patch**

- <u>not cover with heating pad</u> or any bandage. If you develop a fever while you have a patch on, call your healthcare provider.
- Apply to hairless skin on flat surface (chest, back, flank, upper arm) and change every 72 hrs. Cut hair short if necessary. Press in place for 30 seconds.
- Do not use soap, alcohol or other solvents to remove transdermal gel if it accidentally touches skin. Use large amount of water.
- Dispose of patch in toilet. (Active drug)
- Keep away from children and animals. Keep in childresistant box if possible.

## **MUSCLE RELAXANTS**

- This medicine will cause somnolence and fatigue and can impair your ability to perform mental and physical activities. Do not drive when using this medicine.
- Avoid alcohol, sleeping pills, antihistamines, sedatives, pain pills and tranquilizers that can also make you drowsy, except under the supervision of your healthcare provider.

#### LIDODERM PATCH

- Patches can be cut into smaller sizes with scissors before removal of the release (plastic) liner.
- Safely discard unused portions of cut patches where children and pets cannot get to them.
- Apply up to three patches at one time to cover the most painful area. Apply patches only once daily for up to 12 hr in a 24-hr period (12 hr on and 12 hr off).
- Remove patch if skin irritation occurs.
- Fold used patches so that the adhesive side sticks to itself and safely discard used patches or pieces of cut patches where children and pets cannot get to them. Even a used patch contains enough medicine to harm a child or pet.

Do not use on broken, abraded, severely burned or skin with open lesions (can significantly increase amount absorbed).

# **CAPSAICIN TOPICAL**

- Apply a thin film of cream to the affected area and gently rub in until fully absorbed.
- Apply 3 4 times daily.
- Best results typically occur after 2 4 weeks of <u>continuous</u> use. Do not use as-needed, since frequent, long-term use is required for benefit.
- Unless treating hand pain, wash hands thoroughly with soap and water immediately after use.
- If treating hands, leave on for 30 minutes, then wash hands as above.
- Do not touch genitals, nasal area, mouth or eyes with the medicine; it will burn the sensitive skin.
- The burning pain should dissipate with continual use; starting at the lower strength will help.
- Never cover with bandages or a heating pad; serious burning could result.

### METHYL SALICYLATE TOPICAL

- Contact your healthcare provider if you develop a rash or excessive skin irritation while using this product or if symptoms last for more than seven days.
- Do not apply on wounds or damaged skin. Do not cover with tight bandages or apply heat.

#### Select Guidelines/References

CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain. https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/rr/rr6501e1.htm (accessed 2019 April 17).

SAMHSA Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit. https://store.samhsa.gov/system/files/sma18-4742.pdf (accessed 2019 April 17).

Use of Opioids for the Treatment of Chronic Pain: a Statement from the American Academy of Pain Medicine. http://www.painmed.org/files/use-of-opioids-for-the-treatment-of-chronic-pain.pdf (accessed 2019 April 17).