

## TESTOSTERONE (patch)

tes-tos-ter-own

### What does it do?

*Testosterone* is a male sex hormone. It is used when the levels of *testosterone* in your body are too low.

### Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have heart, liver or prostate problems, or if you have ever had breast cancer, a blood clot or a stroke.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

### How should you use it?

Apply the patch at night to a clean, dry area of skin (such as the back, tummy, upper arms or thighs) as directed. When you remove the patch, apply the new one in a different place to prevent irritating your skin. Do not cut the patch.

### What if you forget a dose?

If you forget to change the patch, remove the old patch and apply a new one as soon as possible.

### Can you take other medicines?

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

### What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects  | Recommended action              |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Symptoms of liver problems including: yellow skin or eyes, itching, dark urine, pale bowel motions, abdominal pain<br>Prolonged erection (longer than four hours)   | Tell your doctor immediately    |
| Mood changes, headache<br>Head hair loss, more body and facial hair<br>Acne<br>Sore or enlarged breasts<br>More or less interest in sex<br>Swollen feet or legs<br>Stomach upset<br>In women: changes in periods, voice deepening<br>Red or itchy skin where patch has been applied | Tell your doctor if troublesome |

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

### Other information:

- You will need regular blood tests while you are taking *testosterone* to check your blood and your prostate (for men), and to make sure you are taking the right dose.
- Some procedures (e.g. MRI scan) may overheat the patch and burn your skin. Discuss with your health professional before your procedure.