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# Neupro Skin Patches

**Generic name:** [rotigotine](#) (transdermal) [ *roe-TIG-oh-teen* ]

**Brand name:** Neupro

**Drug class:** [Dopaminergic antiparkinsonism agents](#)

Medically reviewed by [Philip Thornton, DipPharm](#). Last updated on Jan 27, 2025.

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## What is Neupro?

Neupro has some of the same effects as a chemical called dopamine, which occurs naturally in your body. Low levels of dopamine in the brain are associated with Parkinson's disease.

Neupro skin patches are used to treat symptoms of [Parkinson's disease](#), such as stiffness, tremors, muscle spasms, and poor muscle control.

Neupro is also used to treat [restless legs syndrome \(RLS\)](#).

## Warnings

Some people using Neupro have fallen asleep during normal daytime activities such as working, talking, eating, or driving. You may fall asleep suddenly, even after feeling alert. Tell your doctor if you have any problems with daytime sleepiness or drowsiness. If you are unsure of how rotigotine will affect you, be careful if you drive or do anything that requires you to be awake and alert.

You may have increased sexual urges, unusual urges to gamble, or other intense urges while taking this medication. Talk with your doctor if you believe you have any intense or unusual urges while using Neupro.

Do not stop using Neupro suddenly, or you could have unpleasant withdrawal symptoms. Ask your doctor how to avoid withdrawal symptoms when you stop using Neupro. Cold or allergy medicine, narcotic pain medicine, sleeping pills, muscle relaxers, and medicine for seizures, depression or anxiety can add to sleepiness caused by rotigotine. Tell your doctor if you regularly use any of these other medicines. Drinking alcohol can increase certain side effects of rotigotine. The Neupro patch may burn your skin if you wear the patch during an MRI (magnetic resonance imaging). Remove the patch before undergoing such a test. Neupro may cause hallucinations (the sensation of hearing or seeing something that is not there), most commonly among elderly people. Call your doctor if you have hallucinations.

Follow all directions on your medicine label and package. Tell each of your healthcare providers about all your medical conditions, allergies, and all medicines you use.

## Before taking this medicine

You should not use Neupro if you are allergic to rotigotine.

To make sure Neupro is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have:

- [asthma](#) or a sulfite allergy;
- high or [low blood pressure](#);
- heart problems;
- kidney disease;
- [schizophrenia](#), [bipolar disorder](#), or psychosis;
- [narcolepsy](#) or other sleep disorder; or
- if you feel light-headed or nauseated when you stand up.

People with Parkinson's disease may have a higher risk of [skin cancer \(melanoma\)](#). Talk to your doctor about this risk and what skin symptoms to watch for.

It is not known whether this medicine will harm an unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.

You should not breast-feed while using rotigotine.

 [Neupro pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

## How should I use Neupro?

Use Neupro skin patches exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides. Your doctor may occasionally change your dose.

Read and carefully follow any Instructions for Use provided with your medicine. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you do not understand these instructions.

Apply the patch to clean, dry, and hairless skin. Avoid placing the patch where it will be rubbed by a waistband or tight clothing. Press the patch firmly into place for about 30 seconds. You may leave the patch on while bathing, showering, or swimming.

Remove the skin patch after 24 hours and replace it with a new one. Choose a different place on your body to wear the patch each time you put on a new one. Do not use the same skin area twice within 14 days.

If a patch falls off, put a new patch on a different place on your body and wear it the rest of the day. Then replace the patch the next day at your regular time.

Wash your hands with soap and water after applying or removing the patch.

Keep used and unused Neupro skin patches out of the reach of children or pets.

**If you are using Neupro for RLS**, call your doctor if your symptoms get worse, or if they start earlier in the day than usual.

This medicine can affect the results of certain medical tests. Tell any doctor who treats you that you are using Neupro.

The Neupro patch may burn your skin if you wear the patch during an [MRI](#) (magnetic resonance imaging). Remove the patch before undergoing such a test.

Do not stop using Neupro suddenly, or you could have unpleasant withdrawal symptoms. Ask your doctor how to safely stop using this medicine.

Keep the skin patch in its sealed pouch until you are ready to use it. Store the pouches at room temperature away from heat and moisture.

After removing a patch, fold it in half so it sticks together and throw it away in a place where children or pets cannot get to it.

## Dosing information

### Usual Adult Dose for Parkinson's Disease:

Initial doses:

Early-stage Parkinson's disease: Apply 2 mg topically once a day

Advanced-stage Parkinson's disease: Apply 4 mg topically once a day

Maintenance dose: Increase weekly in 2 mg/24 hours increments if additional therapeutic effect is needed

Lowest effective dose: 4 mg/24 hours

Maximum dose for Early-stage Parkinson's disease: 6 mg/24 hours

Maximum dose for Advanced-stage Parkinson's disease: 8 mg/24 hours

Comments:

-Upon discontinuation, reduce the daily dose by a maximum of 2 mg every 24 hours, if possible; reduce the dose every other day until withdrawal is complete.

Use: Treatment of Parkinson's disease

### Usual Adult Dose for Restless Legs Syndrome:

Initial dose: Apply 1 mg topically once a day

Maintenance dose: Increase weekly in 1 mg/24 hours increments if additional therapeutic effect is needed

Lowest effective dose: 1 mg/24 hours

Maximum dose: 3 mg/24 hours

Comments:

-Upon discontinuation, reduce the daily dose by a maximum of 1 mg every 24 hours, if possible; reduce the dose every other day until withdrawal is complete

Use: Treatment of moderate-to-severe primary Restless Legs Syndrome

 [Detailed Neupro dosage information](#)

## What happens if I miss a dose?

If you forget to change a patch on your scheduled day, remove and replace the patch as soon as you remember. Wear the new patch until your next regular patch-changing time. Do not change your schedule, even if you wear the new patch for less than 24 hours.

## What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

## What should I avoid while using Neupro?

Drinking alcohol with this medicine can increase side effects.

Avoid driving or hazardous activity until you know how this medicine will affect you. Your reactions could be impaired.

Avoid getting up too fast from a sitting or lying position, or you may feel dizzy.

Avoid applying a patch to skin that is irritated, or to skin where you have applied lotion, oil, cream, ointment, or powder.

**Do not expose the skin patch to heat while you are wearing it.** This includes a hot tub, heating pad, sauna, or heated water bed. Heat can increase the amount of drug absorbed through your skin and may cause harmful effects.

## Neupro side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction to Neupro**: [hives](#); difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Call your doctor at once if you have:

- severe skin irritation that does not clear up within several hours after removing a skin patch;
- extreme drowsiness, falling asleep suddenly, even after feeling alert;
- a light-headed feeling, like you might pass out;
- [agitation](#), confusion, hallucinations, paranoia (most commonly in elderly people);
- [fast heart rate](#);
- increased sexual urges, unusual urges to gamble, or other intense urges;
- unusual thoughts or behavior; or
- uncontrolled muscle movements.

Some people using Neupro have fallen asleep during normal daytime activities such as working, talking, eating, or driving. Tell your doctor if you have any problems with daytime sleepiness or drowsiness.

Common Neupro side effects may include:

- [nausea](#), [vomiting](#), loss of appetite;
- [headache](#), [dizziness](#), drowsiness;
- vision problems;
- swelling in your hands or feet, rapid weight gain;

- increased sweating;
- sleep problems ([insomnia](#)); or
- redness, itching, or swelling where a patch was worn.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Neupro side effects](#) (more detail)

## Related/similar drugs

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Sinemet is used to treat symptoms of Parkinson's disease, such as muscle stiffness, tremors ...

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## What other drugs will affect Neupro?

Using Neupro with other drugs that make you drowsy can worsen this effect. Ask your doctor before using opioid medication, a sleeping pill, a muscle relaxer, or medicine for [anxiety](#) or [seizures](#).

Other drugs may interact with rotigotine, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). Tell your doctor about all your current medicines and any medicine you start or stop using.

 [Neupro drug interactions](#) (more detail)

## Does Neupro interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

Neupro

+

Enter a drug name

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## Popular FAQ

Can you shower with a Neupro patch?



Where do you apply the Neupro patch?



How do you get Neupro patch to stick?



Is Neupro a controlled substance?



Can Neupro patches be cut in half?



How long does it take for Neupro to work?



Why was Neupro taken off the market?



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- [FDA approval history](#)
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- [Breastfeeding](#)
- [En español](#)

## Professional resources

- [Neupro Patch prescribing information](#)
- [Rotigotine \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

## Related treatment guides

- [Restless Legs Syndrome](#)
- [Parkinson's Disease](#)

## Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use Neupro only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

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### DRUG STATUS

#### Availability

**Rx** Prescription only

#### [Pregnancy & Lactation](#)

 Risk data available

#### CSA Schedule\*

**N/A** Not a controlled drug



#### Approval History

**10+ years** FDA approved 2007



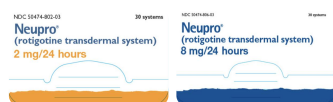
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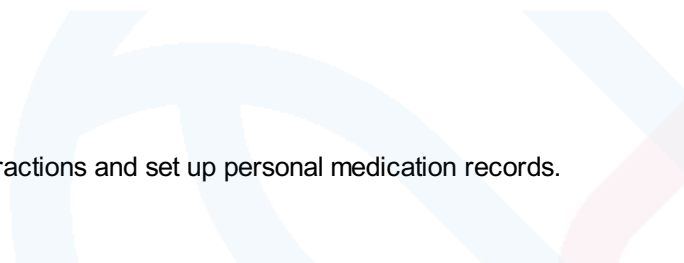
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