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2. Minivelle

Minivelle (skin patch)

Generic name: [estradiol transdermal](#) (skin patch) [*ES-tra-DYE-ole-tranz-DERM-al*]

Brand names: [Climara](#), [Dotti](#), [Estradiol Patch](#), [Lyllana](#), [Menostar](#), ... [show all 8 brands](#)

Drug class: [Estrogens](#)



[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Aug 17, 2023. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).

[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#)

What is Minivelle?

Estradiol is a form of estrogen, a female sex hormone produced by the ovaries. Estrogen is necessary for many processes in the body.

Minivellees are used to treat certain symptoms of menopause such as hot flashes, and [vaginal dryness](#), burning, and irritation. Minivelle is also used to prevent postmenopausal [osteoporosis](#), or to treat ovarian disorders.

Minivelle may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

Minivelle side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction**: hives; difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Remove the skin patch and call your doctor at once if you have:

- **heart attack symptoms**--chest pain or pressure, pain spreading to your jaw or shoulder, nausea, sweating;
- **increased blood pressure**--severe headache, blurred vision, pounding in your neck or ears, anxiety, nosebleed;
- **signs of a stroke**--sudden numbness or weakness (especially on one side of the body), sudden severe headache, slurred speech, problems with vision or balance;
- **signs of a blood clot**--sudden vision loss, stabbing chest pain, feeling short of breath, coughing up blood, pain or warmth in one or both legs;
- swelling or tenderness in your stomach;
- jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes);
- unusual vaginal bleeding, pelvic pain;
- a breast lump;
- memory problems, confusion, unusual behavior; or

- **high levels of calcium in your blood**--nausea, vomiting, [constipation](#), increased thirst or urination, muscle weakness, bone pain, lack of energy.

Common side effects of Minivelle may include:

- headache, back pain;
- stuffy nose, sinus pain, [sore throat](#);
- vaginal itching or discharge, changes in your menstrual periods, [breakthrough bleeding](#);
- bloating, stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting;
- breast pain;
- redness or irritation where the patch was worn;
- thinning scalp hair; or
- [fluid retention](#) (swelling, rapid weight gain).

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.

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

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Warnings

You should not use estradiol if you have: undiagnosed vaginal bleeding, [liver disease](#), [coronary artery disease](#), if you will have major surgery, or if you have ever had a [heart attack](#), a stroke, a blood clot, or cancer of the breast,

uterus/cervix, or vagina.

Do not use if you are pregnant.

Estradiol may increase your risk of developing a condition that may lead to [uterine cancer](#). **Report any unusual vaginal bleeding right away.**

Using Minivelle can increase your risk of blood clots, stroke, heart attack, or cancer of the breast, uterus, or ovaries. Estradiol should not be used to prevent [heart disease](#), stroke, or dementia.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use estradiol if you are allergic to it, or if you have:

- unusual vaginal bleeding that has not been checked by a doctor;
- liver disease;
- coronary artery disease;
- a [bleeding disorder](#);
- a history of heart attack, stroke, or blood clot; or
- a history of hormone-related cancer, or cancer of the breast, uterus/cervix, or vagina.

Do not use estradiol if you are pregnant. Tell your doctor right away if you become pregnant during treatment.

Using estradiol can increase your risk of blood clots, stroke, or heart attack. You are even more at risk if you have [high blood pressure](#), diabetes, [high cholesterol](#), if you are overweight, or if you smoke.

Estradiol should not be used to prevent heart disease, stroke, or dementia, because this medicine may actually increase your risk of developing these conditions.

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- heart disease;
- liver problems, or jaundice caused by pregnancy or taking hormones;
- a thyroid disorder;
- [gallbladder disease](#);
- kidney disease;
- asthma;
- epilepsy or other seizure disorder;
- migraine headaches;
- lupus;
- porphyria (a genetic enzyme disorder that causes symptoms affecting the skin or nervous system);
- [endometriosis](#) or uterine fibroid tumors;
- high levels of calcium in your blood; or

- [hereditary angioedema](#) (an immune system disorder).

Using estradiol may increase your risk of cancer of the breast, uterus, or ovaries. Talk with your doctor about this risk.

Estradiol can slow breast milk production. Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding.

How should I use Minivelle?

Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. Use the medicine exactly as directed.

Apply the skin patch to clean, dry skin on your stomach or buttocks. Press the patch firmly into place for at least 10 seconds. Choose a different spot within these skin areas each time you apply a new patch. Do not use the same skin area twice within 7 days. Avoid skin that is irritated or damaged.

Do not apply a skin patch to your breasts. Do not apply a patch where it might be rubbed off by tight clothing, such as under an elastic waistband. **Never cut a skin patch.**

If a patch falls off, try sticking it back into place. If it does not stick well, put on a new patch on a different skin area and leave it on only for the rest of your wearing time. Do not change your patch removal schedule.

Remove the patch and apply a new one on the same day(s) each week to stay on your once-weekly or twice-weekly schedule.

Estradiol may increase your risk of developing a condition that may lead to uterine cancer. Your doctor may prescribe a progestin to help lower this risk. **Report any unusual vaginal bleeding right away.**

If you need major surgery or will be on long-term bed rest, you may need to stop using Minivelle for a short time. Any doctor or surgeon who treats you should know that you are using estradiol.

Your doctor should check your progress on a regular basis to determine whether you should continue this treatment. Self-examine your breasts for lumps on a monthly basis, and have regular mammograms while using Minivelle.

Store patches at room temperature away from moisture and heat. Keep each patch in its pouch until you are ready to use it.

After removing a skin patch, fold it in half so it sticks together. Discard the folded patch in a place children and pets cannot get to.

 [Detailed Minivelle dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

If you forget to change your patch, change it as soon as you remember or wait until your next scheduled patch change. **Do not** apply two patches at one time.

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 Minivelle?

Avoid smoking. It can greatly increase your risk of blood clots, stroke, or heart attack while using estradiol.

Grapefruit may interact with estradiol and lead to unwanted side effects. **Avoid the use of grapefruit products.**

Avoid using creams, lotions, or powders on the skin where you apply the patch, or it may not stick to your skin.

What other drugs will affect Minivelle?

Sometimes it is not safe to use certain medications at the same time. Some drugs can affect your blood levels of other drugs you take, which may increase side effects or make the medications less effective.

Other drugs may affect estradiol, 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.

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

Does Minivelle interact with my other drugs?

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

Minivelle

+

Enter a drug name

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Professional resources

- [Minivelle prescribing information](#)
- [Estradiol \(Systemic, Local\) \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

Other brands

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Related treatment guides

- [Postmenopausal Symptoms](#)

Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication 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 | |
|  | Drug history at FDA |

User Reviews & Ratings

5.9 / 10

[12 Reviews](#)

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