Qutenza® (capsaicin) 8% patch is indicated for the management of neuropathic pain associated with postherpetic neuralgia.

Gather These Supplies

- Cotton-tipped applicators
- Skin marking pens
- Tracing paper or other similar paper such as exam table paper
- Topical anesthetic
- Several pairs of nitrile gloves (latex gloves do not provide adequate protection)
- Scissors
- Rolled gauze bandages
- Biohazard bag/container
- Mild soap
- Dry wipes
- Qutenza® patch(es) and Cleansing Gel

Counsel Your Patient

Patients may experience the following side effects, as observed in patients (≥5% and greater than control) in clinical studies:

- Localized skin redness or irritation
- Localized pain or burning sensation
- Localized itching
- Papules in the area of treatment
- Nausea

As well as:

- Transient increase in blood pressure
- Sensitivity to heat (e.g., hot shower/bath, direct sunlight, vigorous exercise) for a few days

Advise patient:

- To notify you if they are pregnant or breastfeeding.
- Not to touch the patch.
- To inform you immediately if any of the side effects become severe or irritation of the eyes or airways occurs.
- That medications given to treat acute pain during/after Qutenza® treatment, such as opioids, may affect the ability to perform potentially hazardous activities (e.g., driving or operating machinery).

Prepare for Treatment

- Only physicians or healthcare professionals under the close supervision of a physician are to administer Qutenza® (capsaicin) 8% patch.
- Monitor blood pressure during and following the treatment procedure.
- Nitrile gloves must be worn when handling, applying, and cleaning capsaicin residue from the skin. Do not use latex gloves as they do not provide adequate protection.
- It is advisable to administer Qutenza® in a well-ventilated treatment area, and to use a face mask and protective glasses.
- Inspect the Qutenza® (capsaicin) 8% pouch. Do not use if the pouch has been torn or damaged.
- Use Qutenza® only on dry, intact (unbroken) skin.
- Prepare to treat acute pain during and following the procedure with local cooling and/or appropriate analgesics.

PLEASE SEE FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION.
**Application Procedure**

1. **IDENTIFY**

Mark painful areas (including areas of hypersensitivity and allodynia), clip hair (if necessary, do not shave), gently wash treatment area with mild soap and water, and dry thoroughly.

*Treatment area must be identified by a physician*

2. **ANESTHETIZE**

Apply topical anesthetic to the entire treatment area and surrounding 1–2cm. Keep anesthetic in place until the skin is anesthetized, then remove the topical anesthetic with a dry wipe. Gently wash the area with mild soap and water and dry thoroughly.

3. **APPLY**

Before removing the protective release liner, cut Qutenza® to fit the treatment area, using the tracing paper if necessary.

Apply the Qutenza® patch within 2 hours of opening the pouch. Peel back a small section of the release liner and place the adhesive side of the patch on the treatment area. Slowly peel back the release liner from under the patch while smoothing the patch down on to the treatment area.

Leave in place for 60 minutes. A rolled gauze dressing may be used to ensure Qutenza® maintains contact with the treatment area.

4. **REMOVE**

Remove patch by gently and slowly rolling it inward. Instruct patient not to touch the treatment area.

5. **CLEANSE**

After removal of Qutenza® (capsaicin) 8% patch, generously apply Cleansing Gel to the treatment area and leave on for at least 1 minute. Remove Cleansing Gel with a dry wipe. Then gently wash the area with mild soap and water and dry thoroughly. Immediately after use, dispose of used and unused patches, Cleansing Gel, and other treatment materials in accordance with local biomedical waste procedures.

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**The recommended dose of Qutenza® is a single, 60-minute application of up to 4 patches.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approximate size of painful area (cm²)</th>
<th># of patches needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0–280</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>281–560</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>561–840</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>841–1120</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each patch is 14cm x 20cm (280cm²)

Treatment with Qutenza® may be repeated every 3 months or as warranted by the return of pain (not more frequently than every 3 months).

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**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:**

**Warnings and Precautions:**

- If opioids are used to treat pain associated with the application procedure, please note that opioid treatment may affect the patient’s ability to perform potentially hazardous activities such as driving or operating heavy machinery.

*PLEASE SEE FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION.*
**Indication:**
Qutenza® (capsaicin) 8% Patch is indicated for the management of neuropathic pain associated with postherpetic neuralgia.

**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:**
Only physicians or healthcare professionals under the close supervision of a physician are to administer Qutenza (capsaicin).

**Contraindications:**
None

**Warnings and Precautions:**
- Do not apply Qutenza to the face or scalp to avoid risk of exposure to the eyes or mucous membranes.
- Aerosolization of capsaicin can occur and inhalation may result in coughing or sneezing.
- If skin not intended to be treated comes into contact with Qutenza, clean area using Cleansing Gel.
- Patients may experience substantial procedural pain. Prepare to treat pain with local cooling (such as a cold pack) and/or appropriate analgesic medication.
- Transient increases in blood pressure may occur during and shortly after the Qutenza treatment. Blood pressure changes were associated with treatment-related increases in pain. Monitor blood pressure and provide adequate support for treatment-related pain. Patients with unstable or poorly controlled hypertension or a recent history of cardiovascular or cerebrovascular events may be at an increased risk of adverse cardiovascular effects. Consider these factors prior to initiating Qutenza treatment.
- If opioids are used to treat pain associated with the application procedure, please note that opioid treatment may affect the patient’s ability to perform potentially hazardous activities such as driving or operating heavy machinery.

**Adverse Reactions:**
In clinical trials, serious adverse reactions included application associated pain and increase in blood pressure. The most common adverse reactions (≥ 5% and greater than control) were application-site erythema, application-site pain, application-site pruritus, or application-site papules, and nausea.

**Adverse Event Reporting:**
Physicians, other health care providers and patients are encouraged to voluntarily report adverse events involving drugs or medical devices. To make a report you can:
- In the U.S., visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088; or
- For Qutenza®, you may also call 1-877-900-6479 and select option 1, or press zero on your keypad to talk to an operator to direct your call.

**PLEASE SEE FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION.**