

### **Patient Information Leaflet**

#### **Switching from buprenorphine patches to Butec® patches**

The Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) is responsible for managing the drugs budget for all the doctors in the area. It is important that we make the best use of the money available to spend on medicines without reducing the quality of treatment patients receive.

#### **Why has my medicine changed?**

Your medicine has not actually changed, only the brand name and packaging have altered. The patches are the same and made in same production line as BuTrans®.

#### **Why have I been prescribed a different brand?**

When a new medicine is developed, one company manufactures the medicine with a patent license. When the patent expires, other companies are allowed to manufacture the same product under different names. These new medicines contain the same active ingredient, are manufactured to the same high standards and are a more cost effective option for the doctors to prescribe. There are several brands available. The HSCB has chosen Butec® patches as its cost-effective brand of choice.

#### **Will this new brand work in the same way?**

Yes, Butec® patches work in exactly the same way as other buprenorphine patches. You will use the same dose and quantity that you currently use. Please use up remaining supplies of your current patches before ordering your next repeat prescription.

#### **What will they look like?**

To help you to identify your new patches, pictures of the patches and their packaging are shown.

The patches are beige and have the strength written on the patch e.g. Butec® 5mcg, Butec® 10mcg or Butec® 20mcg.

### **Examples**

