PURPOSE:
Applying a fractional dose of scopolamine patch.

CONSIDERATIONS:
1. Dividing the scopolamine patch is not recommended by the manufacturer. DO NOT cut the actual patch.
2. Patch is to remain in place over 3 days. Remove after 72 hours and replace with fresh patch as ordered by the physician.
3. Always clean the skin with soap and water before applying new medication. Dry thoroughly.
4. Keep the patch as dry as possible to prevent it from dislodging.
5. To discard the patch, remove the patch from the patient, fold it on itself and dispose in a sharps container or biohazard waste container.

EQUIPMENT:
Scopolamine patch

PROCEDURE:
1. Adhere to Standard Precautions.
2. Open the pouch by cutting on the dotted line.
3. Remove the patch from the pouch.
4. DO NOT cut the actual patch.
5. Peel back the clear plastic backing from the patch.
   Cut the amount needed to expose the correct dose order for the patch:
   a. 1/2 (one-half) patch ordered, cut 1/2 (one-half) of the clear backing.
   b. 1/4 (one-fourth) patch ordered, cut 1/4 (one-fourth) of the clear backing.
6. DO NOT touch the adhesive surface of the patch with your hands.
7. Firmly apply the adhesive side of the patch to a dry area of skin behind the ear.
8. Ensure that the tan-colored side is showing and that the metallic portion is making good contact with the skin.
9. A small piece of tape may be used to keep the patch in place on the skin.
10. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water to remove any scopolamine.

AFTERCARE:
1. Document in the patient’s record:
   a. Medication administered, dose, time, route and site.
   b. Patient response to medication, side effects noted and management.
   c. Instructions given to patient or caregiver.
   d. Communication with physician.

REFERENCE:
Scopolamine manufacturer’s instructions.