

BCCA Protocol Summary for Incident Pain Therapy Using **SUFentaniil** Via Sublingual Route

Protocol Code

SCPAINSU

Tumour Group

Supportive Care

Contact Physician

Dr. Pippa Hawley

ELIGIBILITY:

- Patients with incident pain.

TESTS:

- Baseline: pain level, sedation level, respiratory rate.
- At 5 minutes, 10 minutes and 25 minutes post dose(s) for first episode of pain: pain level, sedation level, respiratory rate and other adverse effects.

PREMEDICATIONS:

- None.

TREATMENT:

Drug	Dose	BCCA Administration Guideline
SUFentaniil	12.5 - 25 mcg prn. May repeat every 5 minutes up to maximum of 3 doses in a 1-hour period. (for opioid naïve patients [*] , start with 12.5 mcg prn; may repeat every 5 minutes up to maximum of 3 doses in a 1-hour period) (for opioid tolerant patients, give 25 mcg prn; may repeat every 5 minutes up to maximum of 3 doses in a 1-hour period)	Sublingual (hold liquid under the tongue for at least 1 minute or until absorbed)

*If insufficient pain relief with activity after 3 doses of 12.5 mcg in 1 hour, then in the following episodes of pain, may increase to 25 mcg q 5 min up to 3 doses in a 1-hr period.

Discontinue if no response after 3 doses of 25 mcg in one episode of pain.

DOSE MODIFICATIONS:

1. **Hematological:** None
2. **Renal dysfunction:** None.
3. **Hepatic dysfunction:** None.

PRECAUTIONS:

1. **Sedation:** If patient's sedation level is 3 and pain is still uncontrolled, discontinue protocol.

SEDATION LEVEL ASSESSMENT

S = Sleeping (easy to rouse, NORMAL SLEEP)
0 = None (awake, alert)
1 = Mild (occasionally drowsy, easy to rouse)
2 = Moderate (frequently drowsy, easy to rouse)
3 = Severe (somnolent, difficult to rouse)

2. **Respiration:** If patient's respiratory rate falls below 12 and pain is still uncontrolled, discontinue protocol.

Call Dr. Pippa Hawley at (604) 877-6000 or 1-800-663-3333 with any problems or questions regarding this treatment program.

Date activated: 1 April 2002

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References:

1. Yeomans W, Hsu DHS, Shalansky K. Sublingual sufentanil. Vancouver Hospital and Health Sciences Centre Drug & Therapeutics Newsletter, 2001; 8(1).
2. Kunz KM, Theisen JA, Schroeder ME. Severe episodic pain: management with sublingual sufentanil. J Pain Symptom Manage 1993;8(4):189-90.
3. Gardner-Nix J. Oral transmucosal fentanyl and sufentanil for incident pain. J Pain Symptom Manage 2001;22(2):627-30.