BCCA Protocol Summary for Incident Pain Therapy Using SUFentanil 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Dose</th>
<th>BCCA Administration Guideline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUFentanil</td>
<td>12.5 - 25 mcg prn.  May repeat every 5 minutes up to maximum of 3 doses in a 1-hour period.</td>
<td>Sublingual (hold liquid under the tongue for at least 1 minute or until absorbed)</td>
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<td>* (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)</td>
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<td>(for opioid tolerant patients, give 25 mcg prn; may repeat every 5 minutes up to maximum of 3 doses in a 1-hour period)</td>
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</table>

*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

**Date revised**: 1 Sep 2016 (TALLman lettering formatted)

**References**:
1. Yeomans W, Hsu DHS, Shalansky K. Sublingual sufentanil. Vancouver Hospital and Health Sciences Centre Drug & Therapeutics Newsletter, 2001; 8(1).