

FENTANYL (generic) SUBLIMAZE (brand)

ACTION: Binds with opiate receptors in the CNS altering the perception of and emotional response to pain.

INDICATIONS:

1. Musculoskeletal pain
2. Burns
3. Chest pain

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

1. Allergy or known hypersensitivity to Fentanyl
2. Hypotension (systolic BP < 90 systolic in adults)

PRECAUTIONS:

1. Use with caution in asthma, COPD, hepatic or renal disease and bradyarrhythmias.
2. Because this drug can decrease respirations, be prepared to assist ventilations and to administer the narcotic antagonist Naloxone (Narcan).
3. May cause skeletal and/or thoracic muscle rigidity if given rapidly.

ADVERSE REACTIONS/SIDE EFFECTS:

1. Respiratory depression, apnea, sedation, and confusion
2. Bradycardia
3. Seizures may occur
4. Hypertension or hypotension
5. Dry eyes, blurred vision, and vomiting

ADMINISTRATION:

1. Administer 1mcg/kg up to 100 mcg of Fentanyl IM or slow IV/IO (over 1-2 minutes). Vital signs must be checked before and after dose. Initial onset with IV use is 1-2 minutes with peak action if 3-5 minutes and a duration of 30 – 60 minutes. Initial onset with IM use is 7-15 minutes with peak action 20-30 minutes and duration of 1-2 hours.
2. If respiratory depression or hypotension occurs after using, ventilate the patient and administer 2 mg of Narcan IV/IO push. This can be done prior to medical control contact. If no improvement after one minute, contact physician and obtain order to administer a second dose of Narcan 2 mg. This dose may be repeated every 2 - 3 minutes until a total of 10 mg of Narcan is administered. On long transports, repeat doses may be required periodically if respiratory depression occurs.
3. Monitoring physician must be notified when Fentanyl is given, and physician name must be documented on run form. Further orders must come from monitoring physician.
4. Fentanyl is a controlled substance and its use must be documented according to the “Controlled Substance” policy.

PEDIATRIC CONSIDERATIONS:

1. Patients < 12 years may be given an initial dose of 1-2 mcg/kg on standing order. Contact Medical Control Physician for medication order of a secondary dose if patient pain is not managed.
2. Initial dose is 2 mcg/kg IV/IO. If respiratory depression or hypotension occurs after using, ventilate the patient and administer Narcan dose as indicated in Narcan guideline.