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# Understanding Breakthrough Cancer Pain (BTCP) and Identifying Treatment Limitations

This presentation will include evidence-based information on a therapeutic option for the management of breakthrough cancer pain.



**Speaker:** Connie Ferraro, RN, BSN, OCN

**Location:** Eddie Merlot's 37000 Woodward Ave. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

To reserve your seat, please RSVP to:

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**THIS IS NOT A CME/CEU EVENT.** Consistent with PhRMA guidelines, spouses and guests are not permitted to attend industry-sponsored events. We appreciate your support and thank you in advance for your cooperation. INSYS Therapeutics is required to disclose all items of value provided to healthcare providers. By attending the speaker program, you are accepting the disclosure of the cost of the meal.

# Indication

SUBSYS is indicated for the management of breakthrough pain in adult cancer patients who are already receiving and who are tolerant to around-the-clock opioid therapy for their underlying persistent cancer pain. Patients considered opioid tolerant are those who are taking around-the-clock medicine consisting of at least 60 mg of oral morphine daily, at least 25 mcg of transdermal fentanyl/hour, at least 30 mg of oral oxycodone daily, at least 8 mg of oral hydromorphone daily or an equianalgesic dose of another opioid daily for a week or longer. Patients must remain on around-the-clock opioids when taking SUBSYS.

This product <u>must not</u> be used in opioid non-tolerant patients because life-threatening respiratory depression and death could occur at any dose in patients not on a chronic regimen of opioids. For this reason, SUBSYS is contraindicated in the management of acute or postoperative pain.

SUBSYS is intended to be used only in the care of cancer patients and only by oncologists and pain specialists who are knowledgeable of and skilled in the use of Schedule II opioids to treat cancer pain.

## Limitations of Use

Because of the risk of misuse, abuse, addiction, and overdose, SUBSYS is available only as part of the Transmucosal Immediate-Release Fentanyl (TIRF) REMS Access Program, SUBSYS may be dispensed only to outpatients enrolled in the program. For inpatient administration (e.g., hospitals, hospices, and long-term care facilities that prescribe for inpatient use) of SUBSYS, patient enrollment is not required.





#### IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

## WARNING: RISK OF RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION, MEDICATION ERRORS, ABUSE POTENTIAL

#### Respiratory Depression

Fatal respiratory depression has occurred in patients treated with transmucosal immediate-release fentanyl products such as SUBSYS® (fentanyl sublingual spray), including following use in opioid non-tolerant patients and improper dosing. The substitution of SUBSYS for any other fentanyl product may result in fatal overdose.

Due to the risk of respiratory depression, SUBSYS is contraindicated in the management of acute or postoperative pain including headache/migraine and in opioid non-tolerant patients.

Death has been reported in children who have accidentally ingested transmucosal immediate-release fentanyl products. SUBSYS must be kept out of reach of children. [see Patient Counseling Information (17.3) and How Supplied/Storage and Handling (16.1)].

The concomitant use of SUBSYS with CYP3A4 inhibitors may result in an increase in fentanyl plasma concentrations, and may cause potentially fatal respiratory depression. [see Drug Interactions (7)].

## **Medication Errors**

Substantial differences exist in the pharmacokinetic profile of SUBSYS compared to other fentanyl products that result in clinically important differences in the extent of absorption of fentanyl that could result in fatal overdose.

- When prescribing, do not convert patients on a mcg per mcg basis from any other fentanyl products to SUBSYS. [see Dosage and Administration (2.1), Warnings and Precautions (5.2), and Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)]
- When dispensing, do not substitute a SUBSYS prescription for other fentanyl products.

#### **Abuse Potential**

SUBSYS contains fentanyl, an opioid agonist and a Schedule II controlled substance, with an abuse liability similar to other opioid analgesics. SUBSYS can be abused in a manner similar to other opioid agonists, legal or illicit. This should be considered when prescribing or dispensing SUBSYS in situations where the physician or pharmacist is concerned about an increased risk of misuse, abuse or diversion.

Because of the risk for misuse, abuse, addiction, and overdose, SUBSYS is available only through a restricted program required by the Food and Drug Administration, called a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS). Under the Transmucosal Immediate-Release Fentanyl (TIRF) REMS Access program, outpatients, healthcare professionals who prescribe to outpatients, pharmacies, and distributors must enroll in the program. [see Warnings and Precautions (5.10)]. Further information is available at www.TIRFREMSaccess.com or by calling 1-866-822-1483.

#### **Contraindications**

- · SUBSYS is contraindicated in opioid non-tolerant patients
- SUBSYS is contraindicated in the management of acute or postoperative pain including headache/migraine. Life-threatening respiratory depression and death could occur
  at any dose in opioid non-tolerant patients
- SUBSYS is contraindicated in patients with known intolerance or hypersensitivity to any of its components or the drug fentanyl. Anaphylaxis and hypersensitivity have been
  reported in association with the use of other oral transmucosal fentanyl products

#### **Warnings and Precautions**

- Clinically significant respiratory depression can occur. Respiratory depression is more likely to occur in patients with underlying respiratory disorders and elderly or
  debilitated patients, usually following large initial doses in opioid non-tolerant patients, or when opioids are given in conjunction with other drugs that depress respiration
- Monitor patients with Grade 1 mucositis closely for signs of respiratory and central nervous system depression particularly during initiation of therapy with SUBSYS. The use
  of SUBSYS should be avoided in patients with Grade 2 and more severe mucositis unless the benefits are expected to outweigh the risk of respiratory depression
- SUBSYS is not bioequivalent with other fentanyl products. Do not convert patients on a mcg per mcg basis from other fentanyl products. Do NOT substitute a SUBSYS
  prescription for any other fentanyl product, a substitution may result in a fatal overdose
- Patients and caregivers must be instructed that SUBSYS contains a medicine in an amount which can be fatal to a child and thus must keep used and unused dosage units
  out of the reach of children
- The concomitant use of SUBSYS with other CNS depressants, including other opioids, sedatives or hypnotics, general anesthetics, phenothiazines, tranquilizers, skeletal
  muscle relaxants, sedating antihistamines, and alcoholic beverages may produce increased depressant effects (e.g., respiratory depression, hypotension, and profound
  sedation). Concomitant use with strong and moderate inhibitors of CYP450 3A4 isoform (e.g., erythromycin, ketoconazole, and certain protease inhibitors) may increase
  fentanyl levels, resulting in increased depressant effects. Patients on concomitant CNS depressants must be monitored for a change in opioid effects. Consideration should
  be given to adjusting the dose of SUBSYS if warranted
- Patients taking SUBSYS must be warned that opioid analgesics impair the mental and/or physical ability required for the performance of potentially dangerous tasks (e.g., driving a car or operating machinery). Warn patients taking SUBSYS of these dangers and counsel them accordingly
- Because potent opioids can cause respiratory depression, titrate SUBSYS with caution in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or preexisting medical
  conditions predisposing them to respiratory depression. In such patients, even normal therapeutic doses of SUBSYS may further decrease respiratory drive to the point of
  respiratory failure
- Administer SUBSYS with extreme caution in patients who may be particularly susceptible to the intracranial effects of CO<sub>2</sub> retention such as those with evidence of increased intracranial pressure or impaired consciousness
- Use SUBSYS with caution in patients with bradyarrhythmias
- SUBSYS is not recommended for use in patients who have received MAO inhibitors within 14 days because severe and unpredictable potentiation by MAO inhibitors has
  been reported with opioid analgesics

# **Drug Interactions**

Monitor patients for opioid toxicity who begin therapy with, or increase the dose of, <u>inhibitors</u> of CYP450 3A4, or stop therapy with, or decrease the dose of, <u>inducers</u> of CYP450 3A4

# **Use in Specific Populations**

· Safety and efficacy in pediatric patients below the age of 18 years have not been established

## **Adverse Reactions**

- The most serious adverse reactions associated with all opioids including SUBSYS are respiratory depression (potentially leading to apnea or respiratory arrest), circulatory depression, hypotension, and shock. Follow all patients for symptoms of respiratory depression
- The most common adverse events during titration (frequency ≥5%): nausea, vomiting, constipation, somnolence, and dizziness
- The most common adverse events subsequent to titration (frequency ≥5%): vomiting, nausea, constipation, asthenia, dyspnea, and anxiety
- The most common adverse reaction leading to discontinuation of SUBSYS was nausea. There were also adverse reactions of abdominal distension, anorexia, confusional state, disorientation, somnolence, and constipation
- Please see accompanying full Prescribing Information, including Boxed Warning and Medication Guide for SUBSYS

