

Prescribing Clinical Network

Policy Statement	Immediate Release Fentanyl for all indications other than palliative care treatment
Policy Number	PCN 316-2018
Date of Issue	January - 2018
Review Date:	January - 2021 <i>(Unless new published evidence becomes available before this date OR there is new published national guidance e.g. NICE)</i>
<p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Immediate Release Fentanyl will be considered BLACK on the traffic light system for all indication other than palliative care treatment in line with NICE CG140</p> <p>The PCN does not recommend the use of Immediate Release Fentanyl other than for patients undergoing palliative care treatment and where the recommendation to use immediate release fentanyl in line with NICE CG140 (opioids in palliative care) has been made by a multi-disciplinary team and / or other healthcare professional with a recognised specialism in palliative care.</p> <p>Prescribers should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NOT initiate immediate release fentanyl for any new patient; AND ○ Switch patients taking immediate release fentanyl to an alternative, with specialist support, in line with NHS England guidance. (excluding palliative care in line with NICE CG140) <p>In exceptional circumstances where there is a clinical need for immediate release fentanyl to be prescribed in primary care this should be undertaken in a cooperation arrangement with a multidisciplinary team and / or other healthcare professional</p>	
<p>Key Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS England guidance 'Items which should not routinely be prescribe in primary care: Guidance for CCGs' - https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/items-which-should-not-be-routinely-prescribed-in-pc-ccg-guidance.pdf • Immediate release fentanyl is licensed for the treatment of breakthrough pain in adults with cancer who are already receiving at least 60mg oral morphine daily or equivalent • NICE CG140 Opioids in Palliative Care states <i>do not offer fast-acting fentanyl as first-line rescue medication</i> 	
Date taken to Prescribing Clinical Network	10 th January 2018
Agreed by PCN members	22 nd January 2018

Surrey (East Surrey CCG, Guildford & Waverley CCG, North West Surrey CCG, Surrey Downs CCG & Surrey Heath CCG), Crawley CCG and Horsham & Mid-Sussex CCG