



**Subject:** Transmucosal Immediate Release Fentanyl (Actiq<sup>®</sup>, Fentora<sup>®</sup>, Abstral<sup>®</sup>, Onsolis<sup>®</sup>, Subsys<sup>™</sup>, Lazanda<sup>®</sup>)\*

**Effective Date:** December 9, 2008

**Department(s):** Utilization Management

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**Policy:** Transmucosal immediate release fentanyl products (Actiq<sup>®</sup>, Fentora<sup>®</sup>, Abstral<sup>®</sup>, Onsolis<sup>®</sup>, Subsys<sup>™</sup>, Lazanda<sup>®</sup>) are reimbursable under Plans administered by QualCare, Inc., within the limitations of this policy.

**Objective:** To assure proper and consistent reimbursement and to prevent inappropriate prescribing and dispensing of specific drugs with significant abuse potential.

**Procedure:**

I. Reimbursable use for Actiq<sup>®</sup>, Fentora<sup>®</sup>, Abstral<sup>®</sup>, Onsolis<sup>®</sup>, Subsys<sup>™</sup>, and Lazanda<sup>®</sup> is limited to:

**Intractable breakthrough pain in cancer patients (ICD-9 338.3; ICD-10 G89.3)** tolerant to opioid therapy that includes at least one long-acting narcotic (including but not limited to transdermal fentanyl [Duragesic<sup>®</sup>] or MS-Contin<sup>®</sup>)

II. Actiq<sup>®</sup> and Fentora<sup>®</sup> are also reimbursable for the following two indications:

**A. Intractable breakthrough pain not related to cancer, due to degenerative spine disease**

**(“failed back syndrome”) (ICD-9 722.6, 722.8; ICD-10 M51.34--M51.37, M96.1)** that has failed to be controlled by other pain-management strategies that include long-acting systemic opioids for at least three months AND at least one of the following:

1. transcutaneous electromagnetic devices (*e.g.*, TENS unit)  
OR
2. spinal cord stimulator  
OR
3. intrathecal opioid pump

**C. Intractable breakthrough pain not related to cancer, due to sickle cell disease (ICD-9282.6; ICD-10 D57.1)** that has failed to be controlled by other pain-management strategies that include long-acting systemic opioids for at least three months.

Providers who prescribe these products must have face-to-face contact with the individual for whom these drugs are prescribed at least monthly or document in writing why this is not feasible (as, for example, with a bed-bound patient with cancer) AND provide copies of their office records to QualCare, Inc. within seven days of being requested to do so.

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\*Consistent with Summary Plan Description (SPD). When there is discordance between this policy and the SPD, the provisions of the SPD prevail.