

HealthAlliance**MEDICARE**

PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

To define the criteria for coverage of medications indicated to treat pain.

STATEMENT OF THE POLICY

Fentanyl citrate lozenge will be covered if the following criteria are met, for new starts only:

PROCEDURES

1. Coverage Criteria requires all of the following:

- 1.1 FDA approved indication not otherwise excluded from Part D.
- 1.2 Documented tolerance to current long-acting opioid regimen and requires immediate-release breakthrough opioid .
 - Opioid tolerance defined as patient taking at least 60 mg morphine/day, 50 mcg transdermal fentanyl/hour, or an equianalgesic dose of another opioid for a week or longer.
- 1.3 Inability or difficulty swallowing.
- 1.4 Initial approval for six (6) months.

2. References

- 2.1 Actiq (fentanyl citrate lozenge) package insert. PDR entry. Micromedex Healthcare series.