



# Northern Health Palliative Care

## \*\*NEW\*\* Fentanyl Transdermal Patch Regional Order Set

It is **strongly recommended** for medical practitioners to utilize the Fentanyl Transdermal Patch order set for all fentanyl transdermal patch orders.

The fentanyl transdermal patch is indicated for **chronic, stable** pain requiring **around-the-clock** opioid relief in patients that are **opioid tolerant** (taking at least 60 mg/day of oral morphine equivalent for 7 days or longer).

The second page of the order set offers resources for the following:

1. Rotating **FROM** an opioid **TO** a fentanyl transdermal patch.
2. The approximate breakthrough doses recommended for specific strengths of fentanyl transdermal patch(es).
3. A switch schedule for initiation of fentanyl transdermal patch and discontinuation of prior opioids.
4. The minimum length of time between dose increases.

You can find the [Fentanyl Transdermal Patch \(10-111-5338\)](#) order set on DocumentSource.

More information on the use of the fentanyl transdermal patch in palliative patients can be found in the [NH Palliative Care Program Symptom Guidelines 4<sup>th</sup> edition](#) under the chapter, "Principles of Opioid Management."

For additional support, particularly if rotating **off** of the fentanyl patch, please contact the NH Palliative Care Consultation Team:

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|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| <b>North East:</b><br>250-795-6134   | <b>Northern Interior</b><br>250-565-7318 | <b>North West</b><br>250-565-7318 |
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