

## Information for Patients on Actiq® (Oral Transmucosal Fentanyl Citrate)

You have been prescribed Actiq to help manage your cancer-related breakthrough pain when it occurs. Breakthrough pain is an additional sudden pain that occurs despite taking your usual regular opioid pain-killer.

Actiq is provided as a lozenge on a handle (Actiq stick). The active medication is fentanyl, a powerful pain reliever known as an opioid. The lozenge starts to dissolve when it is placed against the lining of the inside of the mouth.

It is then absorbed through the lining of the mouth and into the bloodstream to give fast pain relief. It takes about 15 minutes to consume the lozenge and you should start feeling pain relief while the lozenge is dissolving.

**The pain-relieving medicine in Actiq is very strong and could have very serious consequences if taken accidentally by a child. Actiq must be kept out of reach and sight of children.**



For further information, please contact Cephalon UK Ltd,  
1 Albany Place, Hyde Way, Welwyn Garden City,  
Hertfordshire AL7 3BT  
Main switchboard: +44 (0) 1707 385800 or visit  
[www.actiq.co.uk](http://www.actiq.co.uk)

THIS INFORMATION SHEET SHOULD BE READ IN  
CONJUNCTION WITH THE PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET  
WHICH IS FOUND INSIDE THE ACTIQ PACKAGING

ACT1308/Jul 07

## How to use Actiq®

In order for you to get the most benefit, it is important that you use Actiq correctly by using the following steps which can be also found in the 'Patient Information Leaflet' which you will find inside the Actiq packaging. It is important that you read the instructions carefully before starting treatment with Actiq.

1. Each Actiq stick comes in its own 'blister' package. Hold the printed side away from you and grasp the short tab end of the blister pack. Using a pair of scissors, cut the long tab end off and peel the printed backing completely off and remove the stick. Remember – do not open the blister package until you are ready to use it.



2. Place the lozenge in your mouth between your cheek and gums and use the handle of the stick to move the lozenge around the inside of your cheek using both sides of the mouth to maximise the amount of contact. This will enable more of the medicine to be absorbed in order to provide you with the pain relief that you need.



3. **DO NOT** bite or chew the lozenge. This will not make Actiq work quicker.
4. Do not rub the lozenge too hard against your cheek.
5. You should not eat or drink while using Actiq, however water may be used before you use Actiq to help moisten the mouth.
6. If you start to feel dizzy or sick before you have finished the medicine, remove the lozenge from your mouth and dispose of it immediately (see point 8). If the problem does not resolve, contact your doctor for further advice.



7. Once you have consumed the whole lozenge, throw the handle away in a waste container that is out of the reach of children and pets.
8. If any unused lozenge remains on the handle, it should be dissolved by placing it under hot running water. Once dissolved, throw the handle away in a waste container that is out of the reach of children and pets.