

# Information for Patients on Effentora®

**This information should be read in conjunction with the “Patient Information Leaflet” contained in the Effentora package.**

Effentora is a pain relieving medicine known as an opioid. You have been prescribed Effentora to help manage your breakthrough cancer pain when it occurs. Breakthrough cancer pain is an additional sudden pain that occurs despite you taking the usual regular pain-killer for your cancer pain.

Effentora is a buccal tablet that should be placed in your mouth, between your gum and cheek, where it dissolves and is absorbed through the lining of your mouth into your blood system. This allows quick absorption of the medicine to help relieve your breakthrough pain.

- When you first start using Effentora, your doctor will work with you to find the dose that will relieve your breakthrough pain. It is very important that you use Effentora exactly as your doctor tells you.
- You should take Effentora when your breakthrough cancer pain starts.
- Effentora may be taken before or after meals. You should not consume any food or drink when a tablet is in your mouth.
- In case of dry mouth, you can drink some water to moisten your mouth before using Effentora.
- It is recommended that you change the site of tablet application for each episode of breakthrough pain that you treat with Effentora.
- Good oral hygiene is recommended when using Effentora.
- If you are experiencing more than 4 episodes of breakthrough cancer pain per day, you should contact your Doctor.

**The pain-relieving medicine in Effentora is very strong and could have very serious consequences if taken accidentally by a child or anyone for whom it has not been prescribed. Keep Effentora in a safe and secure place, away from the reach and sight of children. If anyone accidentally takes Effentora, call for emergency help immediately.**

# How to Use Effentora

This information should be read in conjunction with the “Patient Information Leaflet” contained in the Effentora package.

To get the most benefit from Effentora it is important that you use this medication correctly:

## 1. Peel it



- Effentora tablets come individually sealed in a blister package. Only open a blister when you are ready to use a tablet. The tablet must be used immediately once removed from the blister.
- Separate one of the blister units from the blister card by tearing apart at the perforations.
- Bend the blister unit along the line printed on the backing foil where indicated.
- Peel the backing foil back to expose the tablet.
- Do NOT attempt to push the tablet through the blister, because this can damage the tablet.

## 2. Place it



- Remove the tablet from the blister unit and **immediately** place it above a rear molar tooth between the upper gum and the cheek.
- Do not attempt to crush or spit the tablet.
- Do not bite, suck, chew, or swallow the tablet, as this will result in less pain relief than when taken as directed.

## 3. Feel it



- Let the tablet dissolve between your cheek and gum. This takes approximately 14 to 25 minutes.
- You may feel a gentle bubbling sensation as the tablet dissolves.
- After 30 minutes, if pieces of the tablet remain, they may be swallowed with a glass of water.

If you have any further questions on Effentora, please ask your nurse, doctor or pharmacist.