

Maine Medical

PARTNERS

Women's Health

A department of Maine Medical Center

Fentanyl (Sublimaze) Use for Intrapartum Pain Relief

Opiate agonist

Similar to morphine and meperidine in its respiratory effects, except that respiration of healthy individuals returns to normal more quickly.

Although pharmacodynamically similar to morphine and meperidine, fentanyl exhibits little hypnotic activity.

May be given IV or IM

Preferred route is IV.

Dosage and Administration

IV

Dose: 50-100mcg

Peak effect within minutes

Duration: 30-60 minutes

IM

Dose: 50-100mcg

Onset: 7-15 minutes

Duration: 1-2 hours

PCA

Loading dose: 50mcg

Demand dose: 10mcg Q6min

4H lock out dose: 200mcg

Cautions

DRUG INTERACTIONS: general anesthetics, CNS depressants, ethanol, hypnotics, other narcotic analgesics, sedatives, MAOIs, and tricyclic antidepressants.

May have **ADDICTIVE** effects with prolonged or repeated use

High doses may cause muscle rigidity (stiff chest) – can be reversed with neuromuscular blockers, but patient will need assisted ventilation.

Naloxone (Narcan) 0.4 mg IVP and resuscitation equipment should be readily available

When IV fentanyl is administered, fetal monitoring and maternal pulse oximetry is recommended.