

# SUFENTANIL

SYNONYMS	Sufentanil citrate
TRADE NAME	SUFENTA, SUFENTA FORTE
DRUG CLASS	Opioid analgesic
AVAILABILITY	<b>Sufenta:</b> Ampoule contains 10 microgram/2 mL or 50 microgram/10 mL of sufentanil. Also contains sodium chloride. <sup>1</sup> <b>Sufenta Forte:</b> Ampoule contains 50 microgram/mL or 250 microgram/5 mL of sufentanil. Also contains sodium chloride. <sup>1</sup>
pH	3.5–6 <sup>2</sup>
PREPARATION	Not applicable
ADMINISTRATION	
<b>IM injection</b>	Suitable <sup>2</sup>
<b>SUBCUT injection</b>	Suitable in palliative care patients as an intermittent injection or as a continuous subcutaneous infusion. <sup>3,4</sup>
<b>IV injection</b>	Inject slowly. <sup>2</sup>
<b>IV infusion</b>	Suitable <sup>2</sup> Suitable for epidural injection. <sup>2</sup>
STABILITY	<b>Vial:</b> Store below 25 °C. Protect from light. <sup>2</sup> <b>Diluted solution:</b> Stable for 24 hours in glucose 5% and sodium chloride 0.9% <sup>2</sup>
COMPATIBILITY	<b>Compatible fluids:</b> Glucose 5% <sup>2</sup> , sodium chloride 0.9% <sup>2</sup> <b>Compatible via Y-site:</b> Bivalirudin <sup>2</sup> , ceftazidime <sup>2</sup> , cisatracurium <sup>2</sup> , dexmedetomidine <sup>2</sup> , linezolid <sup>2</sup> , palonosetron <sup>2</sup> , remifentanil <sup>2</sup> <b>Compatible in syringe:</b> Atracurium <sup>2</sup> More information is available. <sup>4</sup> Consult the pharmacist, pharmacy department or medicines information service for further information.
INCOMPATIBILITY	<b>Incompatible fluids:</b> No information <b>Incompatible drugs:</b> Daptomycin <sup>5</sup> , indomethacin <sup>5</sup> , lorazepam <sup>5</sup> , thiopentone <sup>5</sup>
SPECIAL NOTES	Restricted Use. Available via the Special Access Scheme. Controlled Drug: Use must be recorded. Sufentanil is a highly potent opioid analgesic. Equianalgesic doses are 5 to 10 times lower than fentanyl. <sup>4</sup>

## REFERENCES

1. Sufentanil. Core data sheet. Macquarie Park, NSW: Janssen; 12/12/12.
2. Trissel LA. Handbook on injectable drugs. 17th ed. Bethesda, Maryland: American Society of Health System Pharmacists; 2013.
3. Palliative Care Expert Group. Therapeutic guidelines: palliative care. Version 3. Melbourne: Therapeutic Guidelines Ltd; 2010.
4. Dickman A, Schneider J. The syringe driver. Continuous subcutaneous infusions in palliative care. 3rd ed. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press; 2011.
5. Sufentanil Citrate. In: IV index. Trissel's 2 clinical pharmaceutics database (parenteral compatibility). Greenwood Village, Colorado: Truven Health Analytics. Accessed 15/02/11.