



Prior Authorization Approval Criteria

Butrans (buprenorphine)

Generic name: Butrans

Brand name: buprenorphine

Medication class: Opioid Agonist-Antagonist Analgesics

FDA-approved uses: management of moderate to severe chronic pain in patients requiring a continuous, around-the-clock opioid analgesic for an extended period of time.

Available dosage forms: 5 mcg/hour, 10 mcg/hour, 20 mcg/hour transdermal patch

Usual dose: Each patch is to be worn for 7 days. The initial dose in opioid naïve patients is 5mcg/hr. For patients already receiving opioids, consult conversion instructions below. **Max dose is 20mcg/hr every 7 days. Higher doses are associated with QT prolongation.**

Current Opioid Analgesic	Current Daily Dose	
	Oral Morphine equivalent	<30mg
Recommended Butrans starting dose	5 mcg/hr	10mcg/hr

Approximate monthly cost: \$226.80 for a one month supply of 10 mcg/hr patches.
 (based on AWP 2011) \$151.20 for a one month supply of 5 mcg/hr patches.
 \$401.52 for a one month supply of 20 mcg/hr patches.

Duration of therapy: to be determined based on pain management

Criteria for use (bullet points below are all inclusive unless otherwise noted):

- The indicated diagnosis (including any applicable labs and /or tests) and medication usage must be supported by documentation from the patient’s medical records.
- Must have moderate to severe chronic pain.
- Failed / intolerant to NSAIDs
- Failed/intolerant to FCHP preferred opioids including morphine sulfate, methadone, fentanyl patches

Cautions:

- Can cause QT prolongation.
- Drug interactions with Class 1A or Class III antiarrhythmics.

Contraindication:

- patients who have significant respiratory depression,
- patients with severe bronchial asthma,

- patients who have or are suspected of having paralytic ileus,
- patients with known hypersensitivity to any of the product's ingredients.
- management of acute pain, postoperative pain, mild pain, and intermittent pain, and in patients who require short-term opioid analgesic therapy.

Not approved if:

- Being used for treatment of opioid dependence
- Has any contraindications to the use of Butrans
- Does not meet the above stated criteria.

Special considerations:

- Butrans may not be effective for patients needing more than 80 mg daily of oral morphine or equivalent.

FCHP Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee approval: _____

Date: _____

Adopted: 06/08/11