Intranasal Fentanyl

What is Intranasal Fentanyl?
Fentanyl has been used since the early 1990s to treat acute pain in emergency room patients. Intranasal Fentanyl is a safe, effective pain medicine, like morphine, that is often used to treat sickle cell pain.

How does it work?
Intranasal Fentanyl is sprayed into the nose like a fine mist.

How do I try it?
If you are interested in trying Intranasal Fentanyl, ask your doctor or nurse at your next emergency room visit. Then let us know what you think!

How long does it take to work?
It works right away and gives you some relief while you are waiting for your IV medicines to work.

What are the side effects?
The side effects of intranasal Fentanyl are mild and (like other pain medicines) most commonly include:
• Nausea
• Fatigue
• Headache

Children’s Hospital & Research Center Oakland Sickle Cell Center and Emergency Department are working to improve sickle cell pain management for everyone. We have learned from other sickle cell programs that starting pain management in the emergency room with intranasal Fentanyl may lead to shorter pain episodes and less time in the hospital.

For more information, contact your healthcare provider or call Dr. Marsha Treadwell at 510-428-3356.