

## **QUTENZA (capsaicin)**

Effective Date: 1/28/14

Date Developed: 1/28/14 by Robert Sterling, MD

Last Approval Date: 1/26/16, 1/24/17, 1/23/18, 1/22/19, 2/18/20

**Description:** Qutenza is a single-use patch (14cm x 20cm) which contains 8% of a synthetic form of capsaicin (a substance found naturally in chili peppers that effects nociceptive nerve fibers in the skin

**Authorization:** pain associated with postherpetic neuralgia.

The following are unlabeled uses and not covered (see the VCHCP policy on Coverage of Prescription Medication for Off-Label use): diabetic neuropathy, treatment of pain associated with psoriasis and intractable pruritis.

**Dosing:** a single 60-minute application of up to four patches

**PRECAUTIONS:** do not expose to eyes or mucous membranes; caution patient that pain may increase following initiation of treatment but will decrease thereafter; application site irritation/sensitivity

**DRUG INTERACTIONS:** No known significant interactions.

## **REFERENCES**

Babbar S, Marier JF, Moukassi MS, et al, "Pharmacokinetic Analysis of Capsaicin After Topical Administration of High-Concentration Capsaicin Patch to Patients With Peripheral Neuropathic Pain," *Ther Drug Monit*, 2009, 31(4):502-10.

Backonja M, Wallace MS, Blonsky ER, et al, "NGX-4010, A High-Concentration Capsaicin Patch, for the Treatment of Postherpetic Neuralgia: A Randomised, Double-Blind Study," *Lancet Neruol*, 2008, 7(12):1106-12.

Bril V, England J, Franklin GM, et al, "Evidence-Based Guideline: Treatment of Painful Diabetic Neuropathy: Report of the American Academy of Neurology, the

American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodiagnostic Medicine, and the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation," *Neurology*, 2011, 76(20):1758-65.

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2. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2907957/pdf/2008-1301.pdf>

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1/24/17	No	Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual review
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