Division: Pharmacy Policy	Subject: Prior Authorization Criteria
Original Development Date: Original Effective Date: Revision Date:	 May 10, 2012

NUCYNTA® (tapentadol)

LENGTH OF AUTHORIZATION: ONE MONTH

REVIEW CRITERIA:

- The patient must be 18 years of age or older.
- Documentation must be submitted which shows previous trial and failure of a minimum of two C-II centrally-acting analgesic medications on the PDL.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

• As with many centrally-acting analgesic medications, the dosing regimen of NUCYNTA® should be individualized according to the severity of pain being treated, the previous experience with similar drugs and the ability to monitor the patient.

• Initiate NUCYNTA® with or without food at a dose of 50 mg, 75 mg, or 100 mg every 4 to 6 hours depending upon pain intensity. On the first day of dosing, the second dose may be administered as soon as one hour after the first dose, if adequate pain relief is not attained with the first dose. Subsequent dosing is 50 mg, 75 mg, or 100 mg every 4 to 6 hours and should be adjusted to maintain adequate analgesia with acceptable tolerability. Daily doses greater than 700 mg on the first day of therapy and 600 mg on subsequent days have not been studied and are, therefore, not recommended. Maximum approval doses are 700 mg on the first day and 600mg daily thereafter.

DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

Tablets: 50 mg, 75 mg, 100 mg