

- Systemic drug treatment in neuropathic pain is often limited in efficacy and by adverse effects.
- In 2009 a high concentration transdermal capsaicin 8% patch (Qutenza<sup>®</sup>; Acorda Therapeutics, Inc., Ardsley, NY, USA; Astellas Pharma Europe Ltd., Chertsey, Surrey, UK) was introduced for the treatment of peripheral neuropathic pain syndromes other than of diabetic origin in adults.
- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled studies show the efficacy of Qutenza in patients with postherpetic neuralgia and painful human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-associated neuropathy.
- In a large non-interventional study, 43% of patients receiving Qutenza had a 30% pain relief.
- Qutenza is a valuable addition to the analgesic options against neuropathic pain in adults; biomarkers that predict treatment response are desirable.

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