

What are Opioids?

Opioids are a class of medications that include prescription drugs such as oxycodone (OxyContin, Percocet), hydrocodone (Norco, Vicodin), codeine, morphine (MS Contin, Kadian), fentanyl, methadone, and many others. Opioids also include the illegal drugs such as heroin. Opioids can be pills, patches, liquids, or injectable medications that can have serious side effects.

Opioids are used to treat moderate to severe pain that may not respond well to other pain medications. Prescription opioids are chemicals that are similar to your own endorphins (an endorphin is the morphine-like chemicals produced by your body that helps diminish pain and creates positive feelings; the body's natural painkillers). They change the way the brain handles pain signals. Opioid medications act on opioid receptors in the spinal cord, gastrointestinal tract, and brain to reduce the intensity of pain perception. Opioids also affect brain areas that control emotion, which can further diminish the effects of painful stimuli.

Common Prescription Opioids:

[Download: Narcotic Analgesics](#)

NARCOTIC ANALGESICS				
Generic	Brand	Form	Strength	Dose Interval
OPIOID AGONIST				
fentanyl	Abstral*	sublingual tabs	100mcg, 200mcg, 300mcg, 400mcg, 600mcg, 800mcg	See entry
	Actiq*	units for transmucosal administration	200mcg, 400mcg, 600mcg, 800mcg, 1200mcg, 1600mcg	See entry
	Duragesic*	transdermal system	12mcg/hr, 25mcg/hr, 50mcg/hr, 75mcg/hr, 100mcg/hr	72hrs
	Fentora*	buccal tabs	100mcg, 200mcg, 400mcg, 600mcg, 800mcg	See entry
	Lazanda*	nasal spray	100mcg/100mL, 300mcg/100mL, 400mcg/100mL	See entry
	Subsys*	sublingual spray	100mcg, 200mcg, 400mcg, 600mcg, 800mcg	See entry
hydrocodone bitartrate	Hysingla ER	ext-rel tabs	20mg, 30mg, 40mg, 60mg, 80mg, 100mg, 120mg	24hrs
	Zohydro ER	ext-rel caps	10mg, 15mg, 20mg, 30mg, 40mg, 50mg	12hrs
hydromorphone	Dilaudid	tabs	2mg, 4mg, 8mg	4–6hrs
		liq	5mg/5mL	3–6hrs

NARCOTIC ANALGESICS

Generic	Brand	Form	Strength	Dose Interval
		rectal supps	3mg	6–8hrs
		SC, IM, or IV inj	0.5mg/0.5mL, 1mg/mL, 2mg/mL, 4mg/mL	2–3hrs
	<u>Dilaudid-HP*</u>	SC, IM, or IV inj	10mg/mL	See entry
	<u>Exalgo*</u>	ext-rel tabs	8mg, 12mg, 16mg, 32mg	24hrs
meperidine	<u>Demerol</u>	scored tabs	50mg, 100mg	3–4hrs
methadone HCl	<u>Dolophine</u>	tabs	5mg, 10mg	See entry
		<u>scored tabs</u>	15mg, 30mg	
	–	oral soln	10mg/5mL, 20mg/5mL, 100mg/5mL*	4hrs
	<u>Arymo ER</u>	ext-rel tabs	15mg, 30mg, 60mg	8–12hrs
	<u>Duramorph</u>	IV, epidural, or intrathecal inj	0.5mg/mL, 1mg/mL	See entry
morphine sulfate	<u>Infumorph</u>	intrathecal or epidural inj	10mg/mL, 25mg/mL	See entry
	<u>Kadian</u>	ext-rel pellets in caps	10mg, 20mg, 30mg, 40mg, 50mg, 60mg, 70mg, 80mg, 100mg, 130mg, 150mg, 200mg	12–24hrs
	<u>MS Contin</u>	sust-rel tabs	15mg, 30mg, 60mg, 100mg, 200mg	12hrs
	–	caps	5mg	4–6hrs
	<u>Oxaydo</u>	tabs	5mg, 7.5mg	4–6hrs
<u>oxycodone</u>	<u>Oxycontin</u>	ext-rel tabs	10mg, 15mg, 20mg, 30mg, 40mg, 60mg, 80mg	12hrs
	<u>Xtampza ER</u>	ext-rel caps	9mg, 13.5mg, 18mg, 27mg, 36mg	12hrs
oxymorphone HCl	<u>Opana</u>	tabs	5mg, 10mg	4–6hrs
	<u>Nucynta</u>	tabs	50mg, 75mg, 100mg	4–6hrs
tapentadol HCl	<u>Nucynta ER</u>	ext-rel tabs	50mg, 100mg, 150mg, 200mg, 250mg	12hrs
	<u>Ultram</u>	scored tabs	50mg	4–6hrs
tramadol HCl	<u>Conzip</u>	ext-rel caps	100mg, 200mg	24hrs

OPIOID AGONIST + NON-OPIOID

codeine/APAP	<u>Tylenol w. Codeine #3</u>	tabs	30mg/300mg	4hrs
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NARCOTIC ANALGESICS

Generic	Brand	Form	Strength	Dose Interval
dihydrocodeine/ ASA/caffeine	Tylenol w. Codeine #4	tabs	60mg/300mg	
	Synalgos-DC	caps	16mg/356.4mg/30mg	4hrs
	Lortab Elixir	liq	10mg/300mg per 15mL	
hydrocodone/APAP	Norco	scored tabs	5mg/325mg, 7.5mg/325mg, 10mg/325mg	4–6hrs
	Vicodin	scored tabs	5mg/300mg	
	Vicodin ES	scored tabs	7.5mg/300mg	
	Vicodin HP	scored tabs	10mg/300mg	
hydrocodone/ ibuprofen	Reprexain	tabs	2.5mg/200mg, 5mg/200mg, 10mg/200mg	4–6hrs
	Vicoprofen	tabs	7.5mg/200mg	
oxycodone HCl/APAP	Percocet	tabs	2.5mg/325mg, 5mg/325mg, 7.5mg/325mg, 10mg/325mg	6hrs
	Xartemis XR	bilayer ext-rel tabs	7.5mg/325mg	12hrs
oxycodone HCl/ASA	Percodan	scored tabs	4.8355mg/325mg	6hrs

OPIOID AGONIST/ANTAGONIST

buprenorphine	Belbuca	buccal films	75mcg, 150mcg, 300mcg, 450mcg, 600mcg, 750mcg, 900mcg	12hrs
	Butrans	transdermal system	5mcg/hr, 7.5mcg/hr, 10mcg/hr, 15mcg/hr, 20mcg/hr	7 days
	Buprenex	IV or IM inj	0.3mg/mL	4–6hrs
butorphanol	Butorphanol NS	nasal spray	1mg/spray	3–4hrs
nalbuphine	—	IV, IM, or SC inj	10mg/mL, 20mg/mL	3–6hrs

NOTES

Key: APAP = acetaminophen; ASA = aspirin; * = opioid-tolerant only

Not an inclusive list of medications and/or official indications. Please see drug monograph at www.eMPR.com and/or contact company for full drug labeling.

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