



Patient Resources

Analgesics

What is an analgesic? Analgesics are medications used to relieve pain. There are two types: acetaminophen and opioids. Before starting any type of analgesic, you should tell your doctor if you:

- Take warfarin or other blood thinners
- Currently have or had a history of liver disease
- Have 3 or more alcoholic drinks a day
- Are pregnant or nursing

	General Information	
	Acetaminophen	Opioids
Availability	Over the Counter (OTC)	Prescription (Rx)
⚠ Caution	⚠ Acetaminophen is found in many products such as cough, cold, allergy, sleep medicines and prescription painkillers; let your doctor know of all medications you are taking.	⚠ Opioids block pain signals in the central nervous system (CNS). Alcohol and other drugs that act on the CNS can worsen side effects and increase the risk of overdose.
⊗ Tell your doctor immediately if you experience:	⊗ Increasing pain after 10 days or more of use; swelling of the hands, feet, ankles or lower legs; skin reddening	⊗ Thoughts of suicide, feel extremely fearful or anxious; swelling in your ankles or feet; blood in your stool
Special Instructions	For extended release tablets, swallow whole, do not crush	Avoid driving or operating heavy machinery or drinking alcohol. Do not crush, break, chew or dissolve pills. Following long-term use, gradually taper under doctor's guidance.
Side Effects*	Nausea, stomach pain, loss of appetite; itching, rash; headache; dark urine; clay-colored stools; yellowing of skin or eyes (jaundice)	Constipation, nausea, vomiting, upset stomach, diarrhea, flatulence, abdominal pain; drowsiness, lightheadedness, extreme sleepiness; dry mouth; headache; itching, rash; sweating; nervousness; lack of energy, impaired physical and mental abilities

*Side effects vary by medication and *may* include

Drug	Form	Frequency
Acetaminophen	OTC: Anacin Aspirin-free, Excedrin, Tylenol, Tylenol Arthritis Pain (regular or extended-release table, capsule)	Every 4 to 8 hours, as needed
Acetaminophen with codeine	Rx: Cocet Plus, Phenaphen with Codeine No. 3 and No. 4, Tylenol with Codeine No. 3 and No. 4, generic (tablet)	Up to every 4 hours
Hydrocodone bitartrate	Rx: Hysingla ER*, Zohydro ER*, generic (capsule)	Once a day
Hydrocodone with acetaminophen	Rx: Hycet, Lorcet, Lortab, Maxidone, Norco, Vicodin, Xodol, Zamicet, Zolvit, Zydone, generic (table, syrup)	Every 4 to 6 hours
Methadone hydrochloride	Rx: Dolophine, Methadose, generic (tablet)	Every 8 to 12 hours
Morphine sulphate	Rx: Avinza ER*, Kadian ER*, MS Contin ER*, Oramorph SR*, Sandoz Morphine SR, generic (capsule and tablet)	Every 4 to 6 hours (IR), Every 8 to 12 hours (ER, CR), Once a day (SR)
Morphine sulphate with naltrexone	Rx: Embeda ER* (capsule)	Once or twice a day
Oxycodone	Rx: APO-Oxycodone CR*, Dazidox, Eth-Oxydose, Xtampza ER*, Oxecta+, Oxyfast, OxyIR*, Oxycodone ER*, Oxycontin CR*, OxyNEO, Percolone, Roxycodone, generic (tablet)	Every 4 to 6 hours (IR) Once a day (CR, ER)
Oxycodone with acetaminophen	Rx: Endocet, Magnacet, Percocet, Primlev, Roxicet, Xolox, Xartemis XR+ (tablet)	Every 6 hours
Oxycodone with sodium	Rx: Oxaydo	Every 4 to 6 hours
Oxycodone with naltrexone	Rx: Targiniq ER*	Every 12 hours
Oxycodone with aspirin	Rx: Encodan, Endodan, Oxycodan, Percodan (tablet)	Every 6 hours
Oxymorphone hydrochloride	Rx: Opana IR*, Opana ER*, generic IR* (tablet)	Every 4 to 6 hours (IR), Once a day (ER)
Tramadol	Rx: ConZip, Rybix ODT, Ryzolt, Ultram IR*, Ultram ER*, generic IR* (capsule, tablet)	Every 4 to 6 hours (IR), Once a day (ER)
Tramadol with acetaminophen	Rx: Ultracet, generic (tablet)	Every 4 to 6 hours (8 tablets a day max)
*Controlled release (CR); extended release (ER); immediate release (IR); sustained release (SR)		