

Medication Guide

Oxycodone Hydrochloride (ox" i koe' done hye" droe klor' ide) and Acetaminophen (a seet" a min' oh fen)

Oral Solution, CII

Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution is:

- A strong prescription pain medicine that contains an opioid (narcotic) that is used to manage pain, severe enough to require an opioid analgesic and for when alternative treatments are inadequate and when other pain treatments such as non-opioid pain medicines do not treat your pain well enough or you cannot tolerate them.

- An opioid pain medicine that can put you at risk for overdose and death. Even if you take your dose correctly as prescribed you are at risk for opioid addiction, abuse, and misuse that can lead to death.

Important information about Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution:

- **Get emergency help or call 911 right away if you take too much Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution (overdose).** When you first start taking Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution, when your dose is changed, or if you take too much (overdose), serious or life-threatening breathing problems that can lead to death may occur. Talk to your healthcare provider about naloxone, a medicine for the emergency treatment of an opioid overdose.
- Taking Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution with other opioid medicines, benzodiazepines, alcohol, or other central nervous system depressants (including street drugs) can cause severe drowsiness, decreased awareness, breathing problems, coma, and death.

- Never give anyone else your Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution. They could die from taking it. Selling or giving away Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution is against the law.

- Store Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution securely, out of sight and reach of children, and in a location not accessible by others, including visitors to the home.

Do not take Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution if you have:

- severe asthma, trouble breathing, or other lung problems.
- a bowel blockage or have narrowing of the stomach or intestines.
- known hypersensitivity to oxycodone, acetaminophen, or any ingredient in Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution.

Before taking Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution, tell your healthcare provider if you have a history of:

- head injury, seizures
- liver, kidney, thyroid problems
- problems urinating
- pancreas or gallbladder problems
- abuse of street or prescription drugs, alcohol addiction, opioid overdose, or mental health problems

Tell your healthcare provider if you are:

- **pregnant or planning to become pregnant.** Prolonged use of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution during pregnancy can cause withdrawal symptoms in your newborn baby that could be life-threatening if not recognized and treated.

- **Breastfeeding.** Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen passes into breast milk and may harm your baby.

- Living in a household where there are small children or someone who has abused street or prescription drugs.

- taking prescription or over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, or herbal supplements. Taking Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution with certain other medicines can cause serious side effects that could lead to death.

When taking Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution:

- Do not change your dose. Take Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution exactly as prescribed by your healthcare provider. Use the lowest dose possible for the shortest time needed.

Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution

Nostrum Laboratories, Inc.
Rx only

WARNING: RISK OF MEDICATION ERRORS; ADDICTION, ABUSE, AND MISUSE; RISK EVALUATION AND MITIGATION STRATEGY (REMS); LIFE-THREATENING RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION; ACCIDENTAL INGESTION; NEONATAL OPIOID WITHDRAWAL SYNDROME; CYTOCHROME P450 3A4 INTERACTION; HEPATOTOXICITY; AND RISKS FROM CONCOMITANT USE WITH BENZODIAZEPINES OR OTHER CNS DEPRESSANTS

Risk of Medication Errors

Ensure accuracy when prescribing, dispensing, and administering Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution. Dosing errors due to confusion between mg and mL, and other Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen solutions of different concentrations can result in accidental overdose and death [see **WARNINGS, DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**].

Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse

Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution exposes patients and other users to the risks of opioid addiction, abuse, and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death. Assess each patient's risk prior to prescribing Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution, and monitor all patients regularly for the development of these behaviors or conditions [see **WARNINGS**].

Opioid Analgesic Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS):

To ensure that the benefits of opioid analgesics outweigh the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has required a REMS for these products [see **WARNINGS**]. Under the requirements of the REMS, drug companies with approved opioid analgesic products must make REMS-compliant education programs available to healthcare providers. Healthcare providers are strongly encouraged to:

- complete a REMS-compliant education program,
- counsel patients and/or their caregivers, with every prescription, on safe use, serious risks, storage, and disposal of these products,
- emphasize to patients and their caregivers the importance of reading the Medication Guide every time it is provided by their pharmacist, and
- consider other tools to improve patient, household, and community safety.

Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression

Serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression may occur with use of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution. Monitor for respiratory depression, especially during initiation of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution or following a dose increase [see **WARNINGS**].

Accidental Ingestion

Accidental ingestion of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution, especially by children, can result in a fatal overdose of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution [see **WARNINGS**].

Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome

Prolonged use of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution during pregnancy can result in neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, which may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated, and requires management according to protocols developed by neonatology experts. If opioid use is reported for a prolonged period in a pregnant woman, advise the patient of the risk of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and ensure that appropriate treatment will be available [see **WARNINGS**].

Cytochrome P450 3A4 Interaction

The concomitant use of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution with all cytochrome P450 3A4 inhibitors may result in an increase in oxycodone plasma concentrations, which could increase or prolong adverse reactions and may cause potentially fatal respiratory depression. In addition, discontinuation of a concomitantly used cytochrome P450 3A4 inducer may result in an increase in oxycodone plasma concentration. Monitor patients receiving Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution and any CYP3A4 inhibitor or inducer [see **CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, WARNINGS, PRECAUTIONS, Drug Interactions**].

Hepatotoxicity

Acetaminophen has been associated with cases of acute liver failure, at times resulting in liver transplant and death. Most of the cases of liver injury are associated with the use of acetaminophen at doses that exceed 4000 mg per day, and often involve more than one acetaminophen-containing product [see **WARNINGS**].

Risks From Concomitant Use With Benzodiazepines Or Other CNS Depressants

Concomitant use of opioids with benzodiazepines or other central nervous system (CNS) depressants, including alcohol, may result in profound sedation, respiratory depression, coma, and death [see **WARNINGS, PRECAUTIONS, Drug Interactions**].

- Reserve concomitant prescribing of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution and benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants for use in patients for whom alternative treatment options are inadequate.
- Limit dosages and durations to the minimum required.
- Follow patients for signs and symptoms of respiratory depression and sedation.

DESCRIPTION

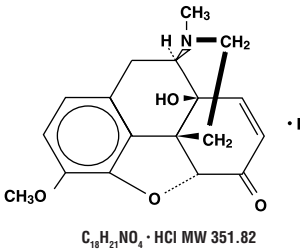
Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen is available in liquid forms for oral administration.

Each 5-mL of oral solution for oral administration contains:
Oxycodone hydrochloride USP 5-mg*
(*5-mg Oxycodone Hydrochloride is equivalent to 4.4815-mg Oxycodone)
Acetaminophen USP 325-mg

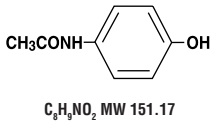
Inactive Ingredients

The solution contains: anhydrous citric acid, edetate disodium, FD&C red #40, fructose, peppermint flavor (#FIM 4134), polyethylene glycol 400, purified water, sodium benzoate, sucralose and if necessary sodium citrate to adjust pH.

Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution contains oxycodone, 14'-hydroxydihydrocodeine, a semisynthetic opioid analgesic which occurs as a white to off-white fine crystalline powder. The molecular formula for oxycodone hydrochloride is C₁₈H₂₁NO₄ · HCl and the molecular weight is 351.82. It is derived from the opium alkaloid, thebaine, and may be represented by the following structural formula:



Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution contains acetaminophen, 4'-hydroxyacetanilide, is a non-opiate, non-salicylate analgesic and antipyretic which occurs as a white, odorless, crystalline powder. The molecular formula for acetaminophen is C₉H₉NO₂ and the molecular weight is 151.17. It may be represented by the following structural formula:



CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Mechanism of Action

Oxycodone is a full opioid agonist with relative selectivity for the mu-opioid receptor, although it can interact with other opioid receptors at higher doses. The principal therapeutic action of oxycodone is analgesia. Like all full opioid agonists, there is no ceiling effect for analgesia with oxycodone. Clinically, dosage is titrated to provide adequate analgesia and may be limited by adverse reactions, including respiratory and CNS depression.

The precise mechanism of the analgesic action is unknown. However, specific CNS opioid receptors for endogenous compounds with opioid-like activity have been identified throughout the brain and spinal cord and are thought to play a role in the analgesic effects of this drug.

The precise mechanism of the analgesic properties of acetaminophen is not established but is thought to involve central actions.

Pharmacodynamics

Effects on the Central Nervous System

Oxycodone produces respiratory depression by direct action on brain stem respiratory centers. The respiratory depression involves a reduction in the responsiveness of the brain stem respiratory centers to both increases in carbon dioxide tension and electrical stimulation.

Oxycodone causes miosis, even in total darkness. Pinpoint pupils are a sign of opioid overdose but are not pathognomonic (e.g., pontine lesions of hemorrhagic or ischemic origins may produce similar findings). Marked mydriasis rather than miosis may be seen due to hypoxia in overdose situations.

Therapeutic doses of acetaminophen have negligible effects on the cardiovascular or respiratory systems; however, toxic doses may cause circulatory failure and rapid, shallow breathing.

Effects on the Gastrointestinal Tract and Other Smooth Muscle

Oxycodone causes a reduction in motility associated with an increase in smooth muscle tone in the antrum of the stomach and duodenum. Digestion of food in the small intestine is delayed and propulsive contractions are decreased. Propulsive peristaltic waves in the colon are decreased, while tone may be increased to the point of spasm, resulting in constipation. Other opioid-induced effects may include a reduction in biliary and pancreatic secretions, spasm of sphincter of Oddi, and transient elevations in serum amylase.

Effects on the Cardiovascular System

Oxycodone produces peripheral vasodilation which may result in orthostatic hypotension or syncope. Manifestations of histamine release and/or peripheral vasodilation may include pruritus, flushing, red eyes, sweating, and/or orthostatic hypotension.

Effects on the Endocrine System

Opioids inhibit the secretion of adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH), cortisol, and luteinizing hormone (LH) in humans [see **ADVERSE REACTIONS**]. They also stimulate prolactin, growth hormone (GH) secretion, and pancreatic secretion of insulin and glucagon.

Chronic use of opioids may influence the hypothalamic-pituitary-gonadal axis, leading to androgen deficiency that may manifest as symptoms as low libido, impotence, erectile dysfunction, amenorrhea, or infertility. The causal role of opioids in the syndrome of hypogonadism is unknown because the various medical, physical, lifestyle, and psychological stressors that may influence gonadal hormone levels have not been adequately controlled for in studies conducted to date [see **ADVERSE REACTIONS**].

Effects on the Immune System

Opioids have been shown to have a variety of effects on components of the immune system. The clinical significance of these findings is unknown. Overall, the effects of opioids appear to be modestly immunosuppressive.

Concentration-Efficacy Relationships

The minimum effective analgesic concentration will vary widely among patients, especially among patients who have been previously treated with potent agonist opioids. The minimum effective analgesic concentration of oxycodone for any individual patient may increase over time due to an increase in pain, the development of a new pain syndrome, and/or the development of analgesic tolerance [see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**].

Concentration-Adverse Reaction Relationships

There is a relationship between increasing oxycodone plasma concentration and increasing frequency of dose-related opioid adverse reactions such as nausea, vomiting, CNS effects, and respiratory depression. In opioid-tolerant patients, the situation may be altered by the development of tolerance to opioid-related adverse reactions [see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**].

Pharmacokinetics

Absorption and Distribution

The mean absolute oral bioavailability of oxycodone in cancer patients was reported to be about 87%. Oxycodone has been shown to be 45% bound to human plasma proteins *in vitro*. The volume of distribution after intravenous administration is 211.9 ±186.6 L.

Absorption of acetaminophen is rapid and almost complete from the GI tract after oral administration. With overdose, absorption is complete in 4 hours. Acetaminophen is relatively uniformly distributed throughout most body fluids. Binding of the drug to plasma proteins is variable; only 20% to 50% may be bound at the concentrations encountered during acute intoxication.

Metabolism and Elimination

Oxycodone

In humans, oxycodone is extensively metabolized to noroxycodone by means of CYP3A-mediated N'-demethylation, oxymorphone by means of CYP2D6-mediated O-demethylation, and their glucuronides [see **PRECAUTIONS, Drug Interactions**].

Acetaminophen

Acetaminophen is rapidly absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract and is distributed throughout most body tissues. A small fraction (10-25%) of acetaminophen is bound to plasma proteins. The plasma half-life is 1.25 to 3 hours, but may be increased by liver damage and following overdose. Elimination of acetaminophen is principally by liver metabolism (conjugation) and subsequent renal excretion of metabolites. Acetaminophen is primarily metabolized in the liver by first-order kinetics and involves three principal separate pathways: conjugation with glucuronicide; conjugation with sulfate; and oxidation via the cytochrome, P450-dependent, mixed-function oxidase enzyme pathway to form a reactive intermediate metabolite, which conjugates with glutathione and is then further metabolized to form cysteine and mercapturic acid conjugates. The principal cytochrome P450 isoenzyme involved appears to be CYP2E1, with CYP1A2 and CYP3A4 as additional pathways. Approximately 85% of an oral dose appears in the urine within 24 hours of administration, most as the glucuronic conjugate, with small amounts of other conjugates and unchanged drug [see **OVERDOSAGE**] for toxicity information.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution is indicated for the management of pain severe enough to require an opioid analgesic and for which alternative treatments are inadequate.

Limitations of Use

Because of the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse, with opioids, even at recommended doses [see **WARNINGS**], reserve Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution for use in patients for whom alternative treatment options (e.g., non-opioid analgesics)

- Have not been evaluated, or are not expected to be tolerated,
- Have not provided adequate analgesia, or are not expected to provide adequate analgesia

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution is contraindicated in patients with:

- Significant respiratory depression [see **WARNINGS**]
- Acute or severe bronchial asthma in an unmonitored setting or in the absence of resuscitative equipment [see **WARNINGS**]
- Known or suspected gastrointestinal obstruction, including paralytic ileus [see **WARNINGS**]
- Hypersensitivity to oxycodone, acetaminophen, or any other component of the product (e.g., anaphylaxis) [see **WARNINGS, ADVERSE REACTIONS**]

WARNINGS

Risk of Accidental Overdose and Death due to Medication Errors

Dosing errors can result in accidental overdose and death. Avoid dosing errors that may result from confusion between mg and mL and confusion with Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solutions of different concentrations, when prescribing, dispensing, and administering Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution. Ensure that the dose is communicated clearly and dispensed accurately. Always use a calibrated measuring device when administering Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution to ensure the dose is measured and administered accurately.

Addition, Abuse, and Misuse

Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution contains oxycodone, a Schedule II controlled substance. As an opioid, Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution exposes users to the risks of addiction,

2.5 mg/325 mg per 5 mL

Each 5 mL of oral solution for oral administration contains:

Oxycodone hydrochloride USP2.5 mg*
(*2.5 mg Oxycodone Hydrochloride is equivalent to 2.2409 mg Oxycodone)

Acetaminophen USP325 mg
5 mg/325 mg per 5 mL

Each 5 mL of oral solution for oral administration contains:

Oxycodone hydrochloride USP5 mg*
(*5 mg Oxycodone Hydrochloride is equivalent to 4.4815 mg Oxycodone)

Acetaminophen USP325 mg
7.5 mg/325 mg per 5 mL

Each 5 mL of oral solution for oral administration contains:

Oxycodone hydrochloride USP7.5 mg*
(*7.5 mg Oxycodone Hydrochloride is equivalent to 6.7228 mg Oxycodone)

Acetaminophen USP325 mg
10 mg/325 mg per 5 mL

Each 5 mL of oral solution for oral administration contains:

Oxycodone hydrochloride USP10 mg*
(*10 mg Oxycodone Hydrochloride is equivalent to 8.9637 mg Oxycodone)

Acetaminophen USP325 mg

To obtain further information on the opioid analgesic REMS and for a list of accredited REMS CME/CPE, call 800-503-0784, or log on to www.opioidanalgesiccrems.com. The FDA Blueprint can be found at www.fda.gov/OpioidAnalgesicCREMSBlueprint.

Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression

Respiratory depression has been reported with the use of opioids, even when used as immediately recognized and treated, may lead to respiratory arrest and death. The risk of respiratory depression may include close observation, supportive measures, and use of clinical status [see **OVERDOSAGE**]. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) retention from opioid-induced respiratory depression can exacerbate the sedating effects of opioids.

While serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression can occur at any time during the use of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution, the risk is greatest during the initiation of therapy or following a dosage increase. Monitor patients closely for respiratory depression, especially within the first 24 to 72 hours of initiating therapy and with following dosage increases of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution.

To reduce the risk of respiratory depression, proper dosing and titration of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution are essential [see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**]. Overestimating the Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution dosage when converting patients from another opioid product can result in a fatal overdose with the first dose.

Accidental ingestion of even one dose of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution, especially by children, can result in respiratory depression and death due to an overdose of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution.

Educate patients and caregivers on how to recognize respiratory depression and emphasize the importance of calling 911 or getting emergency medical help right away in the event of a known or suspected overdose [see **PRECAUTIONS, Information for Patients**].

Opioids can cause sleep-related breathing disorders including central sleep apnea (CSA) and sleep-related hypoxemia. Opioid use increases the risk of CSA in a dose-dependent fashion. In patients who present with CSA, consider decreasing the opioid dosage using best practices for opioid taper [see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**].

Patient Access to Naloxone for the Emergency Treatment of Opioid Overdose

Discuss the availability of naloxone for the emergency treatment of opioid overdose with the patient and caregiver and assess the potential need for access to naloxone, both when initiating and renewing treatment with Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution. Inform patients and caregivers about the various ways to obtain naloxone as permitted by individual state naloxone dispensing and prescribing requirements or guidelines (e.g., by prescription, directly from a pharmacist, or as part of a community-based program). Educate patients and caregivers on how to recognize respiratory depression and emphasize the importance of calling 911 or getting emergency medical help, even if naloxone is administered [see **PRECAUTIONS, Information for Patients**].

Consider prescribing naloxone, based on the patient's risk factors for overdose, such as concomitant use of other CNS depressants, a history of opioid use disorder, or prior opioid overdose. The presence of risk factors for overdose should not prevent the proper management of pain in any given patient. Also consider prescribing naloxone if the patient has household members (including children) or other close contacts at risk for accidental ingestion or overdose. If naloxone is prescribed, educate patients and caregivers on how to treat with naloxone [see **WARNINGS, Addition, Abuse, and Misuse, Risks from Concomitant Use with Benzodiazepines or Other CNS Depressants; PRECAUTIONS, Information for Patients**].

Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome

Prolonged use of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution during pregnancy can result in withdrawal in the neonate. Neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, unlike opioid withdrawal syndrome in adults, may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated, and requires management according to protocols developed by neonatology experts. Observe newborns for signs of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and manage accordingly. Advise pregnant women using opioids for a prolonged period of the risk of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and ensure that appropriate treatment will be available [see **PRECAUTIONS, Information for Patients, Pregnancy**].

Risks of Concomitant Use or Discontinuation of Cytochrome P450 3A4 Inhibitors and Inducers

Concomitant use of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution with a CYP3A4 inhibitor, such as macrolide antibiotics (e.g., erythromycin), azole antifungal agents (e.g., ketoconazole), and protease inhibitors (e.g., ritonavir), may increase potentially fatal plasma concentrations of oxycodone hydrochloride and prolong opioid adverse reactions, which may cause potentially fatal respiratory depression [see **WARNINGS**], particularly when an inhibitor is added after a stable dose of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution is achieved. Similarly, discontinuation of a CYP3A4 inducer, such as rifampin, carbamazepine, and phenytoin, in Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution-treated patients may increase oxycodone plasma concentrations and prolong opioid adverse reactions. When stopping and initiating Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution with CYP3A4 inhibitors or discontinuing CYP3A4 inducers in Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution-treated patients, monitor patients closely at frequent intervals and consider dosage reduction of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution until stable drug effects are achieved [see **PRECAUTIONS, Drug Interactions**].

Concomitant use of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution with CYP3A4 inducers or discontinuance of a CYP3A4 inhibitor could decrease oxycodone hydrochloride plasma concentrations, decrease opioid efficacy or, possibly, lead to a withdrawal syndrome in a patient who had developed physical dependence to oxycodone hydrochloride. When using Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution with CYP3A4 inducers or discontinuing CYP3A4 inhibitors, monitor patients closely at frequent intervals and consider increasing the opioid dosage if needed to maintain adequate analgesia or if symptoms of opioid withdrawal occur [see **PRECAUTIONS, Drug Interactions**].

Risks from Concomitant Use With Benzodiazepines or Other CNS Depressants

Profound sedation, respiratory depression, coma, and death may result from the concomitant use of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution with benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants (e.g., non-benzodiazepine sedatives/hypnotics, anxiolytics, tranquilizers, muscle relaxants, general anesthetics, antipsychotics, other opioids, alcohol). Because of these risks, reserve concomitant prescribing of these drugs for use in patients for whom alternative treatment options are inadequate.

Observational studies have demonstrated that concomitant use of opioid analgesics and benzodiazepines increases the risk of drug-related mortality compared to use of opioid analgesics alone. Because of similar pharmacological properties, it is reasonable to expect similar risk with the concomitant use of other CNS depressant drugs with opioid analgesics [see **PRECAUTIONS, Drug Interactions**].

If the decision is made to prescribe a benzodiazepine or other CNS depressant concomitantly with an opioid analgesic, prescribe the lowest effective dosages and minimum durations of concomitant use. In patients already receiving an opioid analgesic, prescribe a lower initial dose of the benzodiazepine or other CNS depressant than indicated in the absence of an opioid, and titrate based on clinical response. If an opioid analgesic is initiated in a patient already taking a benzodiazepine or other CNS depressant, prescribe a lower initial dose of the opioid analgesic, and titrate based on clinical response. Follow patients closely for signs and symptoms of respiratory depression and sedation.

If concomitant use is warranted, consider prescribing naloxone for the emergency treatment of opioid overdose [see **WARNINGS, Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression; DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, Patient Access to Naloxone for the Emergency Treatment of Opioid Overdose**].

Advise both patients and caregivers about the risks of respiratory depression and sedation when Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution is used with benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants (including alcohol and illicit drugs). Advise patients not to drive or operate heavy machinery until the effects of concomitant use of the benzodiazepine or other CNS depressant have been determined. Screen patients for risk of substance use disorders, including opioid abuse and misuse, and warn them of the risk for overdose and death associated with the use of additional CNS depressants including alcohol and illicit drugs.

Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression in Patients with Chronic Pulmonary Disease or in Elderly, Cachectic, or Debilitated Patients

The use of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution in patients with acute or severe bronchial asthma in an unmonitored setting or in the absence of resuscitative equipment is contraindicated.

Patients with Chronic Pulmonary Disease- Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution-treated patients with significant chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or cor pulmonale, and those with a substantially decreased respiratory reserve, hypoxia, hypercapnia, or pre-existing respiratory depression are at increased risk of decreased respiratory drive including apnea, even at recommended dosages of Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution [see **WARNINGS, Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression**].

Elderly, Cachectic, or Debilitated Patients- Life-threatening respiratory depression is more likely to occur in elderly, cachectic, or debilitated patients because they may have altered pharmacokinetics and altered clearance compared to younger, healthier patients [see **WARNINGS, Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression**].

Monitor such patients closely, particularly when initiating and titrating Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution and when Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen Oral Solution is given concomitantly with other drugs that depress respiration [see **WARNINGS, Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression**]. Alternatively, consider the use of non-opioid analgesics in these patients.

Adrenal Insufficiency

Cases of adrenal insufficiency have been reported with opioid use, more often following greater than one month of use. Presentation of adrenal insufficiency may include non-specific symptoms and signs including nausea, vomiting, anorexia, fatigue, weakness, dizziness, and low blood pressure. If adrenal insufficiency is suspected, confirm the diagnosis with diagnostic testing as soon as possible. If adrenal insufficiency is diagnosed, treat with physiologic replacement doses of corticosteroids. When the patient off of the opioid to allow adrenal function to recover and continue corticosteroid treatment until adrenal function recovers. Other opioids may be tried as some cases reported use of a different opioid without recurrence of adrenal insufficiency. The information available does not identify any particular opioids as being more likely to be associated with adrenal insufficiency.

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