

OPIOID CONVERSION CHART

FROM		TO		codeine		morphine		oxycodone		hydromorphone		fentanyl
		PO	SC	PO	SC	PO	SC	PO	SC	TD		
		mg/day	mg/day	mg/day	mg/day	mg/day	mg/day	mg/day	mg/day	mg/day	mg/day	mcg/hour
codeine	PO mg/day		8	20	12	20	40	120	24			
morphine	PO mg/day	8		2.5	1.5	2.5	5	15	3			
morphine	SC mg/day	20	2.5		0.6	1	2	6	1.2			
oxycodone	PO mg/day	12	1.5	0.6		1.67	3.33	10	2			
oxycodone	SC mg/day	20	2.5	1	1.67		2	6	1.2			
hydromorphone	PO mg/day	40	5	2	3.33	2		3	0.6			
hydromorphone	SC mg/day	120	15	6	10	6	3		0.2			
fentanyl	TD mcg/hour	24	3	1.2	2	1.2	0.6	0.2				

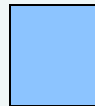


Reference: Sacred Heart Hospital,
Palliative Care Service, Sydney

multiply



divide



Opioid Conversion Chart Instructions

1. Add current opioid doses to get total milligrams per 24 hours (for Fentanyl note the total hourly rate in mcg)
2. Use conversion chart-
 - i. Identify current opioid in column on far left
 - ii. Scan across to column corresponding to new opioid
 - iii. Note conversion factor and whether to be multiplied or divided
3. Multiply or divide current opioid total by conversion factor. This will give the dose of the new opioid in milligrams per 24 hours
4. Divide 24 hours dose by appropriate number
 - ie. 2 for BD dosing of 6 for q4H dosing or 100% breakthrough dose

Opioid Conversions

Please note:

- When changing from one opioid to another there may be incomplete cross-tolerance and apparent dose reduction may be possible. This may be particularly seen at higher doses or rapidly escalating doses.
- Patients will vary in their response to different opioids. The chart's conversion factors are an estimate only. After changing opioid, close assessment should follow and the dose altered as necessary.

Medical Advice:

Please contact the Palliative Care Physician
if you require further advice or assistance.

Nursing Advice:

Please contact your local Palliative Care Service

Macedon Ranges –03) 5422-9911;

Loddon Mallee Mt Alexander Palliative Care–03) 5471-1495;

Djerriwarrah -03) 5367-2000;

Lower Hume- 03) 5735-8070

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Adapted from a resource developed by the NSW Central West Division of
General Practice within their Rural Palliative Care Project