



Oxycodone Hydrochloride 1mg/ml oral solution

This medicine contains oxycodone which is an opioid, which can cause addiction. You can get withdrawal symptoms if you stop taking it suddenly.

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet

1. What Oxycodone oral solution is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Oxycodone oral solution
3. How to take Oxycodone oral solution
4. Possible side effects
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1. What Oxycodone oral solution is and what it is used for

This medicine has been prescribed for you to relieve moderate to severe pain. It contains the active substance oxycodone hydrochloride, which belongs to a class of medicines called opioids, which are ‘pain relievers’. This medicine has been prescribed/provided to you and should not be given to anyone else. Opioids can cause addiction and you may get withdrawal symptoms if you stop taking it suddenly. Your prescriber should have explained how long you will be taking it for and when it is appropriate to stop, how to do this safely.

2. What you need to know before you take Oxycodone oral solution

Do not take Oxycodone oral solution if you:

- or anyone in your family are or have ever been addicted to opioids, alcohol, prescription medicines or illegal drugs;
- are allergic to oxycodone or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6);
- have breathing problems, such as severe chronic obstructive lung disease, severe bronchial asthma or severe respiratory depression. Your doctor will have told you if you have any of these conditions. Symptoms may include breathlessness, coughing or breathing more slowly or weakly than expected;
- have a condition where the small bowel does not work properly (paralytic ileus), your stomach empties more slowly than it should (delayed gastric emptying) or you have severe pain in your abdomen;
- have increased carbon dioxide levels in the blood. Symptoms may include dizziness, drowsiness, fatigue, shortness of breath and headache;
- have a heart problem after long-term lung disease (cor pulmonale);
- have moderate to severe liver problems. If you have other long-term liver problems you should only take this medicine if recommended by your doctor;
- have ongoing problems with constipation;
- are under 18 years of age.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking this medicine if you:

- have previously suffered from withdrawal symptoms such as agitation, anxiety, shaking or sweating, when you have stopped taking alcohol or drugs;
- feel you need to take more of Oxycodone oral solution to get the same level of pain relief, this may mean you are becoming tolerant to the effects of this medicine or are becoming addicted to it. Speak to your prescriber who will discuss your treatment and may change your dose or switch you to an alternative pain reliever;
- are elderly or weakened;
- have an under-active thyroid gland (hypothyroidism), as you may need a lower dose;
- have myxoedema (a thyroid disorder with dryness, coldness and swelling [‘puffiness’] of the skin affecting the face and limbs);
- know you are suffering from a brain injury or tumour, or you have a head injury, severe headache or feel sick, as this may indicate that the pressure in your skull has increased;
- have low blood pressure (hypotension);
- have low blood volume (hypovolaemia); this can happen with severe external or internal bleeding, severe burns, excessive sweating, severe diarrhoea or vomiting;
- have a mental disorder as a result of an infection (toxic psychosis);
- have inflammatory bowel disease;
- have an enlarged prostate gland, which causes difficulty in passing urine (in men);
- have poor adrenal gland function (your adrenal gland is not working properly which may cause symptoms including weakness, weight loss, dizziness, feeling or being sick), e.g. Addison’s disease;
- have severely impaired lung function. Your doctor will have told you if you have this condition. Symptoms may include breathlessness and coughing;
- have long term pain unrelated to cancer;
- have a condition where your breathing stops for short periods whilst you are asleep, known as sleep apnoea;
- have kidney or liver problems.
- have inflammation of the pancreas (which may cause severe pain in the abdomen and back), problems with your gall bladder or bile duct;
- have colicky abdominal pain or discomfort;

Contact your doctor if you experience severe upper abdominal pain possibly radiating to the back, nausea, vomiting or fever as this could be symptoms associated with inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis) and the biliary tract system.

Tolerance, dependence and addiction

This medicine contains oxycodone, which is an opioid. It can cause dependence and/or addiction.

Repeated use of opioid painkillers can result in the drug being less effective (you become accustomed to it, known as tolerance). Repeated use of Oxycodone oral solution can also lead to dependence, abuse, and addiction, which may result in life-threatening overdose. The risk of these side effects can increase with a higher dose and longer duration of use. If you have concerns that you may become dependent on Oxycodone oral solution, it is important that you consult your doctor. Your doctor should have explained how long you will be using it for and when it is appropriate to stop, and how to do this safely.

Dependence or addiction can make you feel that you are no longer in control of how much medicine you need to take or how often you need to take it. You might feel that you need to carry on taking your medicine, even when it doesn’t help to relieve your pain.

The risk of becoming dependent or addicted varies from person to person. You may have a greater risk of becoming dependent or addicted on Oxycodone oral solution if:

- You or anyone in your family have ever abused or been dependent on alcohol, prescription medicines or illegal drugs (“addiction”).

- You are a smoker.
- You have ever had problems with your mood (depression, anxiety or a personality disorder) or have been treated by a psychiatrist for other mental illnesses.

If you notice any of the following signs whilst taking Oxycodone oral solution, it could be a sign that you have become dependent or addicted.

- You need to take the medicine for longer than advised by your doctor
- You need to take more than the recommended dose
- You are using the medicine for reasons other than prescribed, for instance, ‘to stay calm’ or ‘help you sleep’
- You have made repeated, unsuccessful attempts to quit or control the use of the medicine
- When you stop taking the medicine you feel unwell, and you feel better once taking the medicine again (‘withdrawal effects’)

If you notice any of these signs, speak to your doctor to discuss the best treatment pathway for you, including when it is appropriate to stop and how to stop safely (See section 3, If you stop taking Oxycodone oral solution).

Rarely, increasing the dose of this medicine can make you more sensitive to pain. If this happens, you need to speak to your prescriber about your treatment.

Opioids should only be used by those they are prescribed for. Do not give your medicine to anyone else. Taking higher doses or more frequent doses of opioid, may increase the risk of addiction. Overuse and misuse can lead to overdose and/or death.

Withdrawal

Addiction can cause withdrawal symptoms when you stop taking this medicine. Withdrawal symptoms can include restlessness, difficulty sleeping, irritability, agitation, anxiety, feeling your heartbeat (palpitations), increased blood pressure, feeling or being sick, diarrhoea, loss of appetite, shaking, shivering or sweating. If you notice any of these signs, speak to your doctor to discuss the best treatment pathway for you, including when it is appropriate to stop and how to stop safely (See section 3, If you stop taking Oxycodone oral solution). It is important that you do not stop taking the medicine suddenly as you will be more likely to experience withdrawal symptoms.

Sleep-related breathing disorders

Oxycodone oral solution can cause sleep-related breathing disorders such as sleep apnoea (breathing pauses during sleep) and sleep related hypoxemia (low oxygen level in the blood). The symptoms can include breathing pauses during sleep, night awakening due to shortness of breath, difficulties to maintain sleep or excessive drowsiness during the day. If you or another person observe these symptoms, contact your doctor. A dose reduction may be considered by your doctor.

Do not inject Oxycodone oral solution. This can cause serious side effects including tissue death at site of injection, infection, inflammation of the lungs and damage to the heart which may be fatal.

If you are going to have an operation, or have just had an operation, please tell your doctor at the hospital that you are taking this medicine. Your doctor may adjust your dose.

You may experience hormonal changes while taking this medicine. Your doctor may want to monitor these changes.

Other medicines and Oxycodone oral solution

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.

Taking Oxycodone oral solution at the same time as other medicines that slow down the central nervous system can cause slow or difficulty breathing (respiratory depression), severe sleepiness, loss of consciousness and death. These medicines include:

- other medicines used to treat pain known as opioids (such as codeine or morphine);
- medicines used to treat epilepsy (gabapentinoids) such as pregabalin;
- medicines used to treat anxiety;
- medicines used to make you feel sleepy (such as benzodiazepines);
- medicines used to treat allergies, travel sickness, or nausea (antihistamines or antiemetics);
- medicines to treat psychiatric or mental disorders (such as phenothiazines or neuroleptic drugs);
- anaesthetics
- muscle relaxants;
- medicines to treat high blood pressure;
- a type of medicine used to treat depression known as monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs), such as tranylcypromine, phenelzine and isocarboxazid. You should not take Oxycodone oral solution if you are currently taking this type of medicine, or have taken this medicine in the last 2 weeks.

Because of this, your doctor will only prescribe Oxycodone oral solution where there are no other treatment options, and only in small doses for short periods of time. If you or your friends, family or caregivers notice that you are having difficulty breathing or that you have become very sleepy or lost consciousness you (or they) should inform your doctor immediately.

Taking Oxycodone oral solution with medicines used to treat depression known as Selective Serotonin Re-uptake Inhibitors (SSRIs) or Serotonin Norepinephrine Re-uptake Inhibitors (SNRIs) can cause a condition known as serotonin toxicity. The symptoms include agitation, seeing or hearing things that aren’t real (hallucinations), loss of consciousness, a fast heartbeat, blood pressure changes, increased body temperature, muscle twitching, lack of coordination, stiffness, feeling or being sick, or diarrhoea. If you are taking SSRI or SNRI medicines such as citalopram, duloxetine, escitalopram, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, paroxetine, sertraline or venlafaxine your doctor may reduce your dose of Oxycodone oral solution.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of the following medicines, as they may need to adjust your dose:

- a type of medicine used to treat depression known as tricyclic antidepressants, such as amitriptyline, clomipramine, imipramine, lofepramine or nortriptyline;
- medicines used to treat allergies, such as cetirizine, fexofenadine or chlorphenamine;
- medicines used to treat Parkinsons disease;
- antibiotics such as clarithromycin, erythromycin or telithromycin;
- antifungal medicines such as ketoconazole, voriconazole, itraconazole and posaconazole;
- medicines used to treat HIV known as protease inhibitors, such as boceprevir, ritonavir, indinavir, nelfinavir or saquinavir;
- cimetidine, a medicine to treat stomach ulcers;
- rifampicin, a medicine to treat tuberculosis;
- medicines used to treat seizures, fits or convulsions such as carbamazepine and phenytoin;
- a herbal remedy used to treat depression known as St.Johns Wort (also known as *Hypericum perforatum*);
- quinidine, a medicine used to treat an irregular heartbeat.

Taking Oxycodone oral solution with food, drink and alcohol

Drinking alcohol during your treatment with this medicine may make you sleepy or increase the risk of serious side effects such as shallow breathing with a risk of stopping breathing, and loss of consciousness. It is recommended not to drink alcohol while you’re taking Oxycodone oral solution.

You should avoid drinking grapefruit juice during your treatment with this medicine.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Do not take Oxycodone oral solution if you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant unless you have discussed this with your prescriber and the benefits of treatment are considered to outweigh the potential harm to the baby.

If you use Oxycodone oral solution during pregnancy, your baby may become dependent and experience withdrawal symptoms after the birth which may need to be treated.

Do not take Oxycodone oral solution while you are breast-feeding as oxycodone passes into breast milk and will affect your baby.

Driving and using machines

This medicine may cause a number of side effects such as drowsiness which could affect your ability to drive or use machinery (see section 4 for a full list of side effects). These are usually more noticeable when you first start taking this medicine, or when changing to a higher dose. If you are affected you should not drive or use machinery.

This medicine can affect your ability to drive as it may make you sleepy or dizzy.

- Do not drive while taking this medicine until you know how it affects you.
- It is an offence to drive while you have this medicine in your body over a specified limit unless you have a defence (called the ‘statutory defence’).
- This defence applies when:
- The medicine has been prescribed to treat a medical or dental problem; and
- You have taken it according to the instructions given by the prescriber and in the information provided with the medicine.

- Please note that it is still an offence to drive if you are unfit because of the medicine (i.e. your ability to drive is being affected).

Details regarding a new driving offence concerning driving after drugs have been taken in the UK may be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/drug-driving-law>

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure whether it is safe for you to drive while taking this medicine.

Important information about some of the ingredients of Oxycodone oral solution

Sodium: This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per 5 ml, that is to say essentially “sodium-free”.

3. How to take Oxycodone oral solution

Your prescriber should have discussed with you, how long the course of oral solution will last. They will arrange a plan for stopping treatment. This will outline how to gradually reduce the dose and stop taking the medicine.

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor if you are not sure. The label on your medicine will tell you how much to take and how often.

Before starting treatment and regularly during treatment, your doctor will discuss with you what you may expect from using Oxycodone oral solution, when and how long you need to take it, when to contact your doctor, and when you need to stop it (see also if you stop taking Oxycodone oral solution).

Adults (over 18 years of age)

The usual starting dose is 5 mg (5 ml) every 4 to 6 hours. However, your doctor will prescribe the dose required to treat your pain. If you find that you are still in pain whilst taking this medicine discuss this with your doctor.

Children

Children and adolescents under 18 years of age should not take the medicine.

Patients with kidney or liver problems

Please tell your doctor if you suffer from kidney or liver problems as they may prescribe a lower dose depending on your condition.

Do not exceed the dose recommended by your doctor. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Do not drink Oxycodone oral solution directly from the bottle. Measure out the required dose using the spoon, cup or syringe you have been provided. Drinking directly from the bottle increases the risk of overdose.

You must only take this medicine by mouth. This medicine should never be injected as this may lead to serious side effects, which may be fatal.

If you take more Oxycodone oral solution than you should or if someone accidentally swallows your medicine

Call your doctor or hospital straight away. People who have taken an overdose may feel very sleepy, sick or dizzy. They may also have breathing difficulties leading to unconsciousness or even death and may need emergency treatment in hospital. An overdose may result in a brain disorder (known as toxic leukoencephalopathy). When seeking medical attention make sure that you take this leaflet and any remaining medicine with you to show to the doctor.

If you forget to take Oxycodone oral solution

If you miss a dose you should take the next dose as soon as you remember then carry on as before. Do not take two doses within 4 hours. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

If you stop taking Oxycodone oral solution

Do not suddenly stop taking this medicine. If you want to stop taking this medicine, discuss this with your prescriber first. They will tell you how to do this, usually by reducing the dose gradually so that any unpleasant withdrawal effects are kept to a minimum. Withdrawal symptoms such as restlessness, difficulty sleeping, irritability, agitation, anxiety, feeling your heartbeat (palpitations), increased blood pressure, feeling or being sick, diarrhoea, shaking, shivering or sweating may occur if you suddenly stop taking this medicine.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

All medicines can cause allergic reactions, although serious allergic reactions are rare. **Tell your doctor immediately** if you get any sudden wheeziness, difficulties in breathing, swelling of the eyelids, face or lips, rash or itching especially those covering your whole body.

The most serious side effect is a condition where you breathe more slowly or weakly than expected (respiratory depression) and can lead to severe sleepiness and loss of consciousness. This side effect may affect up to 1 in 100 people and is more likely to occur when taking certain other medicines (see section 2 ‘Other medicines and Oxycodone Oral Solution’). **Tell your doctor immediately** if this happens to you. You may wish to ask your friends, family or caregivers to monitor you for these signs and symptoms.

As with all strong painkillers, there is a risk that you may become addicted or reliant on this medicine.

Very common side effects

(May affect more than 1 in 10 people)

- Constipation (your doctor can prescribe a laxative to overcome this problem).
- Feeling or being sick (this should normally wear off after a few days, however your doctor can prescribe an anti-sickness medicine if it continues to be a problem).
- Drowsiness (this is most likely when you start taking your medicine or when your dose is increased, but it should wear off after a few days).
- Dizziness.

- Headache.
- Itchy skin.

Common side effects

(May affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- Dry mouth, loss of appetite, indigestion, abdominal pain or discomfort, diarrhoea.
- Confusion, depression, a feeling of unusual weakness, shaking, lack of energy, tiredness, anxiety, nervousness, difficulty in sleeping, abnormal thoughts or dreams.
- Difficulty in breathing or wheezing, shortness of breath, decreased cough reflex.
- Rash.
- Sweating.

Uncommon side effects

(May affect up to 1 in 100 people)

- Withdrawal symptoms (see section ‘Drug Withdrawal’).
- Difficulty in swallowing, belching, hiccups, wind, a condition where the bowel does not work properly (ileus), inflammation of the stomach, changes in taste.
- A feeling of dizziness or ‘spinning’, hallucinations, mood changes, unpleasant or uncomfortable mood, a feeling of extreme happiness, restlessness, agitation, generally feeling unwell, loss of memory, difficulty in speaking, reduced sensitivity to pain or touch, tingling or numbness, seizures, fits or convulsions, blurred vision, fainting, unusual muscle stiffness or slackness, involuntary muscle contractions.
- Difficulty in passing urine, impotence, decreased sexual drive, low levels of sex hormones in the blood (‘hypogonadism’, seen in a blood test).
- Fast, irregular heartbeat, flushing of the skin.
- Dehydration, thirst, chills, swelling of the hands, ankles or feet.
- Dry skin, severe flaking or peeling of the skin.
- Redness of the face, reduction in size of the pupils in the eye, muscle spasm, high temperature.
- A need to take increasingly higher doses of this medicine to obtain the same level of pain relief (tolerance).
- Colicky abdominal pain or discomfort.
- A worsening of liver function tests (seen in a blood test).

Rare side effects

(May affect up to 1 in 1,000 people)

- Low blood pressure.
- A feeling of ‘faintness’ especially on standing up.

Frequency not known

(Frequency cannot be estimated from the available data)

- An increased sensitivity to pain.
- Aggression.
- Tooth decay.
- Absence of menstrual periods.
- A blockage in the flow of bile from the liver (cholestasis). This can cause itchy skin, yellow skin, very dark urine and very pale stools
- Long term use of Oxycodone oral solution during pregnancy may cause life-threatening withdrawal symptoms in the newborn. Symptoms to look for in the baby include irritability, hyperactivity and abnormal sleep pattern, high pitched cry, shaking, being sick, diarrhoea and not putting on weight.
- Sleep apnoea (breathing pauses during sleep).
- Dependence and addiction (see section “How do I know if I am addicted?”).
- A problem affecting a valve in the intestines that may cause severe upper abdominal pain (sphincter of Oddi dysfunction)
- abnormally increased sensitivity to pain

Drug Withdrawal

When you stop taking Oxycodone oral solution, you may experience drug withdrawal symptoms, which include restlessness, difficulty sleeping, irritability, agitation, anxiety, feeling your heartbeat (palpitations), increased blood pressure, feeling or being sick, diarrhoea, shaking, shivering or sweating.

Long term use of Oxycodone oral solution during pregnancy may cause life-threatening withdrawal symptoms in the newborn. Symptoms to look for in the baby include irritability, hyperactivity and abnormal sleep pattern, high pitched cry, shaking, being sick, diarrhoea and not putting on weight.

If you notice any of these signs, it is important you talk to your prescriber.

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Oxycodone oral solution

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children. Accidental overdose by a child is dangerous and may be fatal.

Store this medicine in a locked safe and secure storage space, where other people cannot access it. It can cause serious harm and be fatal to people when it has not been prescribed for them.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the label and carton. The expiry data refers to the last day of that month.

Once opened use within 30 days.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Oxycodone oral solution contains

The active ingredient is oxycodone hydrochloride. Each 1 ml of Oxycodone oral solution contains 1 mg of oxycodone hydrochloride.

The other ingredients are:

- Sodium benzoate (E 211)
- Sodium saccharine (E 954)
- Citric acid monohydrate (E 330)
- Sodium citrate dihydrate (E 331)
- Hypromellose 2910, E15 (E 464)
- Hydrochloric acid, concentrated (E 507)
- Purified water

What Oxycodone oral solution looks like and contents of the pack

This medicine is a clear, colourless to yellowish oral solution.

This medicine is packed in amber, type III 250 ml glass bottles sealed with a child-resistant, tamper-evident screw cap. It comes with a 5 ml measuring cup with 2.5 ml and 5 ml graduations.

Marketing Authorisation Holder

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