



ADULT Medication Monograph

METHADONE



This document should be read in conjunction with this [DISCLAIMER](#)

[Formulary: Restricted](#)

 **HIGH RISK Medication**

Class	Opioid analgesic
Presentation	<p>Tablet: 10mg</p> <p>Vial: 10mg/mL</p> <p>Oral Liquid: 5mg/mL (10mL containers)</p> <p>Oral Syrup: 5mg/mL (Aspen®)</p>
Storage	<p>Store at room temperature, below 25°C. Protect from light</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Schedule 8 Medication</p>
Dose	Refer to relevant KEMH Clinical Guidelines for appropriate dose regimes (links below)
Administration	<p><u>Oral</u> Can be given with or without food</p> <p><u>IV injection</u> Suitable</p> <p><u>IM injection</u> Inject into a large muscle</p> <p><u>Subcut injection</u> Suitable in palliative care patients as an intermittent injection or as a continuous subcutaneous injection. May cause pain and irritation at injection or infusion site.</p> <p>Refer to the Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook</p>

Pregnancy	<p>1st Trimester: Considered safe to use</p> <p>2nd Trimester: Considered safe to use</p> <p>3rd Trimester: Considered safe to use</p>
Breastfeeding	Considered safe to use
Monitoring	Sedation score, respiratory rate
Clinical Guidelines and Policies	<p>HDWA Policies:</p> <p>OD 0598/15: Management of Community Program for Opioid Pharmacotherapy (CPOP) Patients in the Hospital Setting</p> <p>OD 0141/08: Code of practice for the handling of Schedule 8 medicines (drugs of addiction) in hospitals and nursing posts</p> <p>Recording of Schedule 8 and Schedule 9 transactions in an approved register</p> <p>Storage of Schedule 8 medicines</p> <p>WNHS Policies:</p> <p>Medicines Management – Policies, Accountability and Discrepancy Reporting</p> <p>KEMH Clinical Guidelines:</p> <p>Palliative Care</p> <p>WANDAS Clinical Practice Guideline</p> <p>KEMH Pharmaceutical & Medicines Management Guidelines:</p> <p>Medication Administration</p> <p>Community Programme for Opioid Pharmacotherapy (CPOP)</p> <p>Restricted Schedule 4 (S4R) and Schedule 8 (S8) Medications</p>
References	<p>The Royal Women's Hospital. Methadone. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2018 [cited 2019 Aug 26]. Available from: https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/</p> <p>Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Methadone. In: Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook [Internet]. [St Leonards, New South Wales]: Health Communication Network; 2019 [cited 2017 Aug 26]. Available from: http://aidh.hcn.com.au</p>

Keywords:	Methadone, Physeptone, Biodone, CPOP, opioid, WANDAS		
Publishing:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intranet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internet	
Document owner:	Chief Pharmacist		
Author / Reviewer:	KEMH Pharmacy Department		
Date first issued:	June 2015	Version:	4.0
Last reviewed:	May 2020	Next review date:	May 2023
Endorsed by:	Medicines and Therapeutics Committee	Date:	June 2015
Standards Applicable:	NSQHS Standards: 1  Governance, 4  Medication Safety		
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