



ADULT Medication Monograph

# MORPHINE

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

[Formulary: Restricted](#)




[Formulary: Unrestricted](#)

 **HIGH RISK Medication**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Class</b>          | Opioid analgesic   |
| <b>Presentation</b>   | <p><b>Oral Mixture:</b> 1mg/mL</p> <p><b>Tablet (Immediate Release):</b> 10mg</p> <p><b>Tablet (Modified Release):</b> 5mg, 10mg, 15mg, 30mg, 60mg, 100mg</p> <p><b>Ampoule:</b> 5mg/mL, 10mg/mL</p> <p><b>Vial (For Intrathecal use):</b> 500microg/mL</p> <p><b>Bag:</b> 100mg in Sodium Chloride 0.85% (100mL)</p>                        |
| <b>Storage</b>        | <p><b>Ampoule:</b> Store at room temperature, below 25°C. Protect from light.</p> <p><b>Infusion solution:</b> use within 24 hours.</p>  |
|                       | <b>Schedule 8 Medication</b>   |
| <b>Dose</b>           | <p>Doses will vary widely depending on the indication and previous analgesic requirements.</p> <p>In acute pain and palliative care, there is no maximum dose; only adverse effects limit the morphine dose.</p> <p>Refer to <b>Anaesthetics</b> and relevant <b>KEMH Clinical Guidelines</b> for appropriate dose regimes (links below)</p> |
| <b>Administration</b> | <p><b>Oral:</b></p> <p><i>Modified release tablets:</i> Swallow whole, do not crush or chew</p> <p><b>IV injection:</b></p> <p><b>Dilution:</b> Dilute dose in 4 to 5mL of water for injections</p> <p><b>Administration:</b> Inject SLOWLY over 4 to 5 minutes for rapid onset of action</p>  |

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|   | <p><b><u>IV Infusion:</u></b><br/> <b><i>Dilution:</i></b> Dilute dose to required volume with a compatible fluid.<br/> <b><i>Administration:</i></b> Infuse using controlled rate infusion pump</p> <p><b><i>Compatible fluids:</i></b> Sodium Chloride 0.9%, Glucose 5%.</p> <p><b><u>IM injection:</u></b><br/> Inject into a large muscle. Subcutaneous injection is preferred.</p> <p><b><u>SUBCUT injection:</u></b><br/> Suitable for intermittent or continuous subcutaneous infusion.</p> <p><b><u>Intrathecal:</u></b> <i>For Anaesthetics use ONLY</i><br/> Use only preservative free solutions</p> |
| <b>Pregnancy</b>                        | <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Trimester:</b> Considered safe to use<br/> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester:</b> Considered safe to use<br/> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester:</b> Monitoring required</p>   |
| <b>Breastfeeding</b>                    | <p>Considered safe to use</p>   |
| <b>Monitoring</b>                       | <p>Drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, respiratory rate, pruritus, urinary retention, constipation.</p> <p>Monitor cardiorespiratory status closely particularly with continuous infusion or repeated parenteral doses in opioid-naïve individuals.</p>   |
| <b>Clinical Guidelines and Policies</b> | <p><b>HDWA Policies:</b><br/> <a href="#">Management of Schedule 8 and Restricted Schedule 4 Oral Liquid Medicines</a></p> <p><b>WNHS Policies:</b><br/> <a href="#">WNHS Policy: High Risk Medicines</a></p> <p><b>KEMH Clinical Guidelines:</b><br/> <a href="#">Postoperative management: Anaesthetics</a><br/> <a href="#">Emergency Centre</a><br/> <a href="#">Post- Operative IV Analgesia Flowchart</a><br/> <a href="#">Postnatal Care</a><br/> <a href="#">Palliative Care</a><br/> <a href="#">Labour and Post-operative Analgesia:</a></p>  |

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|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Epidural Analgesia in Labour</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Administration of Epidural Therapy</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Management of Common Problems Associated with Epidurals</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Accidental Dural Puncture (ADP)</a></li> </ul> <p><b>KEMH Pharmaceutical &amp; Medicines Management Guidelines:</b></p> <p><a href="#">Medication Administration</a></p> <p><a href="#">Restricted Schedule 4 (S4R) and Schedule 8 (S8) Medications</a></p> <p><a href="#">Endorsed Midwives Prescribing</a></p>  |
| <b>References</b> | <p>Australian Medicines Handbook. Morphine. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2019 [cited 2020 May 20]. Available from: <a href="https://amhonline.amh.net.au/">https://amhonline.amh.net.au/</a></p> <p>The Royal Women's Hospital. Morphine. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2018 [cited 2020 May 19]. Available from: <a href="https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/">https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/</a></p> <p>Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Morphine. In: Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook [Internet]. [St Leonards, New South Wales]: Health Communication Network; 2019 [cited 2020 May 19]. Available from: <a href="http://aidh.hcn.com.au">http://aidh.hcn.com.au</a></p> <p>Therapeutic Guidelines. Acute pain: perioperative. In: eTG complete [Internet]. West Melbourne (Victoria): Therapeutic Guidelines; 2018 [cited 2020 May 20]. Available from: <a href="https://tgldcdp.tg.org.au">https://tgldcdp.tg.org.au</a></p> |

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| Standards Applicable:   | NSQHS Standards: 1  Governance, 4  Medication Safety, 8  Acute Deterioration |                   |          |
| <p><b>Printed or personally saved electronic copies of this document are considered uncontrolled.</b></p> <p><b>Access the current version from the WNHS website.</b></p> <p><b>For any enquiries relating to this guideline, please email <a href="mailto:KEMH.PharmacyAdmin@health.wa.gov.au">KEMH.PharmacyAdmin@health.wa.gov.au</a></b></p> |   |                   |          |

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