

# Oxycodone

## Pain Management Patient Information Leaflet

### Introduction

Welcome to The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust pain management service. This leaflet will provide you and your relatives with information about a medication called oxycodone. It includes what it is for, how it is taken and its benefits and risks.

This leaflet is not meant to replace discussion between you and your doctor, but as a guide to be used in conjunction with what is discussed.

### What is oxycodone?

It is a strong medicine used to treat severe pain. It belongs to a group of medicines known as opioids (similar to morphine).

It is available in capsule and liquid forms. It can also be prescribed in a slow release form where the medication is released slowly over the day to give a better effect if used in the long term. The brand name of the slow release tablets is Oxycontin and the liquid form is named Oxynorm.

### What are the benefits?

Oxycodone is used to treat severe pain that has not responded to other weaker types of painkillers.

## What are the risks?

Oxycodone can cause side effects. It may cause you to feel drowsy so you should be careful before driving, operating machinery or doing anything where you need to be alert.

**Important: do not drive or operate heavy machinery if you feel drowsy.**

Avoid alcohol whilst taking this medicine. Oxycodone can cause constipation so you may need to eat plenty of fibre (such as fruit and vegetables) and drink plenty of water. Ask for advice from your GP if needed. You may also experience a dry mouth, hot flushes, dizziness or nausea (feeling sick).

It can cause long term side effects that you need to discuss with your GP or the doctor who started you on this medication.

## How do I take it?

Please take your painkiller as directed by your pain consultant or GP. There will also be information on the leaflet enclosed with the medication. Never share your medication with anyone else.

If you have been prescribed slow release tablets they should be swallowed whole with water, not crushed or chewed.

## Dose

Your dose will be calculated, and may need to be changed gradually over time, by your GP or pain consultant. Your GP or pain consultant will tell you if your dose needs to change. **Never take more than your prescribed dose.**

You may be prescribed Oxycontin slow release tablets as well as Oxynorm liquid for any sudden flare-ups of pain.

Do not stop taking the medication suddenly. If you want to stop taking it, speak to your GP or pain management team as you will need to come off it gradually, to avoid side effects.

## What if I have problems?

You can contact the clinical nurse specialists in the pain management team (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday) by:

- Calling **01384 244735** and leaving a message on the answerphone or
- Ringing the switchboard number 01384 456111 and asking them to bleep the number 5064

Out of these hours, you will need to contact your GP or NHS 111.

## Can I find out more?

The following website has more information about managing pain:

### **British Pain Society**

<https://www.britishpainsociety.org/british-pain-society-publications/patient-publications/>

The following website has information about medications and driving:

[www.gov.uk/drug-driving-law](http://www.gov.uk/drug-driving-law)

Russells Hall Hospital switchboard number: 01384 456111

### **This leaflet can be downloaded or printed from:**

<http://dgft.nhs.uk/services-and-wards/pain-management/>

If you have any feedback on this patient information leaflet, please email [dgft.patient.information@nhs.net](mailto:dgft.patient.information@nhs.net)

**This leaflet can be made available in large print, audio version and in other languages, please call 0800 073 0510.**

للحصول على هذه النشرة بحجم أكبر، وعلى شكل إصدار صوتي و بلغات أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال بالرقم 08000730510.

此宣传单可提供大字版本、音频版本和其它语言版本，请拨打电话：0800 073 0510。

Ulotka dostępna jest również w dużym druku, wersji audio lub w innym języku. W tym celu zadzwoń pod numer 0800 073 0510.

ਇਹ ਪਰਚਾ ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ، ਬੋਲ ਕੇ ਰੀਕਾਰਡ ਕੀਤਾ ਹੋਇਆ ਅਤੇ ਦੂਸਰੀਆਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ, 0800 073 0510 ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਜੀ।

Aceasta broșura poate fi pusă la dispoziție tipărită cu caractere mari, versiune audio sau în alte limbi, pentru acest lucru va rugăm sunați la 0800 073 0510.

یہ کتابچہ آپ کو بڑے حروف کی لکھائی، سمعی صورت اور دیگر زبانوں میں مہیا کیا جا سکتا ہے۔ براہ مہربانی فون نمبر 08000730510 پر رابطہ کریں۔