

OXYCODONE ASPEN

oxycodone hydrochloride

Consumer Medicine Information

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about OXYCODONE ASPEN. It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed up the risks of you taking OXYCODONE ASPEN against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine.

You may want to read it again later.

What OXYCODONE ASPEN is used for

This medicine contains oxycodone hydrochloride as the active ingredient.

OXYCODONE ASPEN belongs to a group of medicines called narcotic analgesics. Narcotic analgesics act to relieve pain.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why OXYCODONE ASPEN has been prescribed for you.

Your doctor may have prescribed it for another reason.

OXYCODONE ASPEN is only available with a doctor's prescription.

WARNING:

OXYCODONE ASPEN can be addictive. If used for a long time OXYCODONE ASPEN may become habit forming causing mental and physical dependence. If abused it may become less able to reduce pain.

Before you take it

When you must not take it

Do not take OXYCODONE ASPEN if you have an allergy to:

- any medicine containing oxycodone hydrochloride
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet
- any other similar medicine known as narcotic analgesics e.g. morphine, codeine, opium.

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may be an itchy skin rash, skin blisters or discolouration of the skin upon exposure to sunlight.

Do not use OXYCODONE ASPEN if you currently have or have had any of the following:

- head injury
- brain tumour
- alcoholism
- epilepsy (also known as fitting)
- are taking or have taken in the last 14 days medicines for depression called Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOIs).
- heart problems such as an irregular and/or rapid heartbeat
- asthma
- any difficulty breathing
- depression
- severe headaches due to raised pressure in the head.

Your doctor will need to know about all of these before prescribing OXYCODONE ASPEN for you.

Do not take OXYCODONE ASPEN during pregnancy or during breastfeeding as it may cause difficulty in breathing in an unborn or newborn child.

Women who are pregnant, planning to become pregnant or who are breastfeeding should discuss this with their doctor.

Do not give this medicine to children.

There is not enough information available to recommend the use of OXYCODONE ASPEN in children.

Do not take OXYCODONE ASPEN after the expiry date (EXP) printed on the packet or if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

It may not work as well if you take it after the expiry date.

If you are not sure whether you should be taking OXYCODONE ASPEN, consult your doctor.

Before you start to take it

Tell your doctor if you have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.

Tell your doctor if you currently have or have had any of the following conditions.

- muscle weakness
- underactive thyroid
- kidney disease
- liver disease
- low blood pressure
- if a male, prostate problems or difficulty passing water
- bowel disorders.

It may not be safe for you to take OXYCODONE ASPEN if you have these conditions. Your doctor will need to consider all these factors when advising you about taking OXYCODONE ASPEN.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you start taking OXYCODONE ASPEN.

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking, including any that you may buy from pharmacies, health food shops or supermarkets.

Some medicines may interfere with OXYCODONE ASPEN and these include:

- anaesthetics
- medicines used to thin the blood
- medicines used to treat epilepsy
- medicines used to help with sleeping
- blood pressure lowering medicines
- medicines used to treat mental problems
- medicines used to reduce anxiety
- medicines used to treat depression
- medicines used to treat "flu" symptoms
- pain relievers
- medicines used to relieve stomach cramps or spasms.

These medicines and alcohol may be affected by OXYCODONE ASPEN or they may affect how well it works. You may need to take different amounts of these medicines, or you may need to take different medicines.

Your doctor or pharmacist has a more complete list of medicines to avoid while taking OXYCODONE ASPEN.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you take OXYCODONE ASPEN.

How to take it

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or pharmacist carefully.

They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you do not understand the instructions on the bottle, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

How much to take

The usual dose is ONE tablet every six hours.

Your doctor may prescribe a different dose for you. Be sure to follow your doctor's directions about when and how to take OXYCODONE ASPEN.

How to take it

Swallow OXYCODONE ASPEN with a full glass of water.

OXYCODONE ASPEN should be taken after meals or with milk.

How long to take it

The length of treatment will depend on your condition. Your doctor will advise you when to stop taking OXYCODONE ASPEN.

If you have been using this medicine for a long period of time and it is no longer needed to control pain DO NOT suddenly stop taking OXYCODONE ASPEN.

Your doctor may want you to gradually reduce the amount of OXYCODONE ASPEN you are taking before stopping completely in order to lessen the risk of withdrawal symptoms.

If you forget to take it

If you forget to take a dose of OXYCODONE ASPEN, take the dose as soon as you remember and then go back to taking it as you would normally. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, for example within 2 or 3 hours, skip the missed dose and take the next dose when you are meant to.

Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.

If you are not sure what to do, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

If you have trouble remembering when to take OXYCODONE ASPEN, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

If you take too much (overdose)

Immediately telephone your doctor or the Poisons Information Centre (telephone 13 11 26) for advice, or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much OXYCODONE ASPEN. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

You may need urgent medical attention.

Symptoms of overdose include feeling sleepy and/or difficulty in breathing which could lead to unconsciousness and loss of muscle control. Your heart may stop and death may occur.

While you are taking it

Things you must do

Tell all other doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are taking OXYCODONE ASPEN, especially if you are about to be started on any new medicines or before you have any kind of surgery.

Tell your doctor if you become pregnant while taking OXYCODONE ASPEN.

Things you must not do

Do not take any other medicines while you are taking OXYCODONE ASPEN unless you have discussed this with your doctor.

This includes medicines you can buy without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Do not take OXYCODONE ASPEN to treat any complaint other than that directed by your doctor.

It may not be safe to take OXYCODONE ASPEN for another complaint.

Do not give OXYCODONE ASPEN to anyone else, even if their symptoms seem similar to yours.

It may not be safe for another person to take this medicine.

Do not stop taking it or lower or increase the dose without first checking with your doctor.

If you stop taking OXYCODONE ASPEN suddenly, your pain may come back and you may experience some symptoms of withdrawal.

Do not let yourself run out of medicine over the weekend or on holidays.

Things to be careful of

Be careful when drinking alcohol while you are taking OXYCODONE ASPEN.

The combination could make you more dizzy, sleepy or light-headed than usual. Your doctor may suggest you avoid alcohol while you are taking OXYCODONE ASPEN.

Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how OXYCODONE ASPEN affects you.

OXYCODONE ASPEN may cause drowsiness, sleepiness or dizziness in some people and affect alertness. Make sure you know how you react to it before you drive or operate machinery.

People over 65 years have a higher risk of getting side effects from medicines.

Families and carers should be aware that these people might become confused while taking OXYCODONE ASPEN. Special care may be needed.

Side effects

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking OXYCODONE ASPEN even if you do not think the problems are connected with the medication or they are not listed in this leaflet.

All medicines can have side effects. If they occur, most are likely to be minor and temporary. However, some may be serious and require medical attention.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have about side effects.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following and they worry you:

- dizziness, light-headedness, and confusion
- drowsiness
- hypotension
- constipation
- vomiting

- nausea.

These are common side effects of your medicine.

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you notice any of the following:

- difficulty passing urine
- decreased frequency of passing urine
- dry mouth
- sweating
- redness of the face
- loss of appetite
- faintness or feeling weak
- slow heart rate
- abnormal and fast heart rate
- irregular heart beat
- fall in blood pressure on standing
- decrease in body temperature
- restlessness
- changes of mood
- constriction of pupils.

These side effects are serious and may require medical attention. Serious side effects are rare.

Tell your doctor immediately, or go (or if you are a carer, take anyone else) to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital if you notice any of the following symptoms after taking OXYCODONE ASPEN:

- unconsciousness
- inability to breathe properly
- severe dizziness, drowsiness or disorientation
- symptoms of allergy (e.g. itchy skin rash, skin blisters or discolouration of skin upon exposure to sunlight).

These are uncommon but serious side effects.

Urgent medical attention may be required to deal with these effects.

Some of the less common side effects are:

- muscle stiffness
- itchy rash or other forms of itchiness
- severe headache due to increased pressure within the head.

High doses of OXYCODONE ASPEN can cause unconsciousness, heart failure, low blood pressure or an inability to breathe properly.

In long term use, physical dependence and tolerance may develop and the following withdrawal symptoms may be observed after OXYCODONE ASPEN is discontinued:

- body aches
- loose bowel motions or diarrhoea
- gooseflesh or goose bumps
- loss of appetite
- nervousness
- restlessness
- runny nose
- sneezing
- shivering
- stomach cramps
- nausea
- trouble with sleeping
- an increase in sweating and yawning
- weakness
- fast heart rate
- unexplained fever.

These symptoms are mild if withdrawal from OXYCODONE ASPEN is gradual once it is no longer needed.

Tell your doctor if you notice anything else that is making you feel unwell, even if you

think the problems are not connected with this medicine and are not referred to in this leaflet.

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people.

Early consultation with your doctor can help prevent more serious complications by allowing prompt adjustments in your OXYCODONE ASPEN therapy.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects.

You may not experience any of them.

After taking it

Storage

Keep OXYCODONE ASPEN tablets in their container until it is time to take them.

If you take them out of their container, they may not keep as well.

Keep OXYCODONE ASPEN tablets in a cool, dry place where the temperature stays below 30°C.

Do not store it or any other medication in the bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave it on a window sill or in the car.

Heat and dampness can ruin some medicines.

Keep it where young children cannot reach it.

A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half-metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop taking OXYCODONE ASPEN or you find that they have passed their expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any unused medicine.

Product description

What it looks like

OXYCODONE ASPEN is a white, scored uncoated tablet engraved with "O 5" on one side and break bar on the other side. Available in blister packs of 20 tablets.

Ingredients

Active ingredient:

Each OXYCODONE ASPEN tablet contains 5 mg oxycodone hydrochloride.

Inactive ingredients:

- lactose anhydrous
- microcrystalline cellulose
- stearic acid.

OXYCODONE ASPEN tablets do not contain gluten, sucrose, tartrazine or any other azo dyes.

Sponsor

Aspen Pharma Pty Ltd
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Australia

Australian Registration number: AUST R 224758.

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