

North Staffordshire and Stoke Health Economy

THE OPIOID EQUIVALENCE TABLES

The doses in these tables should be used as an approximate guide only. There are many different sources of opioid dose equivalence data, and most of them contain different information. These tables use the conversions in the Palliative Care Formulary 2011¹ as a basis and the West Midlands Palliative Care Physicians Guidelines. There are no universally accepted conversion ratios.² These conversions sometimes differ from those in the product specific literature provided by the manufacturer.

Morphine		Oxycodone		Fentanyl	Buprenorphine	Codeine Phosphate/ Dihydrocodeine	Tramadol	Tapentadol	
Oral (mg)		Oral (mg)		Transdermal Patch (mcg / hr)	Transdermal Patch (mcg / hr)	Oral (mg)	Oral (mg)	Oral (mg)	
12hr dose	24hr total dose	12hr dose	24hr total dose	Patch strength	Patch strength	24hr total dose	24hr total dose	12hr dose	24hr total dose
SLOW RELEASE		SLOW RELEASE		STABLE PAIN ONLY	STABLE PAIN ONLY			PALEXIA SR®	
	5					60	50		
	10				5 Butrans®	120	100		
	15						150		
10	20	5	10		10 Butrans®	240	200		
15	30	7.5	15				300		
20	40	10	20	12	20 Butrans®		400	50	100
30	60	15	30		35 Transtec®				
40	80	20	40	25				100	200
50	100	25	50		52.5 Transtec®				
60	120	30	60					150	300

References:

¹ Twycross R, Wilcock A. Palliative Care Formulary 4th edition. Pub. Palliativedrugs.com Ltd (2011). www.palliativedrugs.com

² Quigley C. Opioid switching to improve pain relief and drug tolerability. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2004, Issue 3. accessed via <http://www.mrw.interscience.wiley.com>

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Approved by North Staffordshire and Stoke Area Prescribing Committee on 31/05/2017

Review Date: June 2019