



A GUIDE TO EQUIVALENT DOSES FOR OPIOID DRUGS

N.B. – this is to be used as a guide rather than a set of definitive equivalences. Most data on doses is based on single dose studies so is not necessarily applicable in chronic use, also individual patients may metabolise different drugs at varying rates. The advice is always to calculate doses using morphine as standard and to adjust them to suit the patient and the situation. Some of these doses have by necessity been rounded up or down to fit in with the preparations available.

| Oral morphine | | | Subcutaneous Morphine | | Subcutaneous diamorphine | | Oral oxycodone | | | Subcutaneous oxycodone | | Fentanyl transdermal | Subcutaneous Alfentanil | |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 4-hr dose (mg) | 12-hr SR dose (mg) | 24-hr total dose (mg) | 4-hr dose (mg) | 24-hr total dose (mg) | 4-hr dose (mg) | 24-hr total dose (mg) | 4-hr dose (mg) | 12-hr SR dose (mg) | 24-hr total dose (mg) | 4-hr dose (mg) | 24-hr total dose (mg) | Patch strength (micrograms) | 4-hr dose (mg) | 24-hour total dose (mg) |
| 5 | 15 | 30 | 2.5 | 15 | 1.25 | 10 | 2.5 | 7.5 | 15 | 1.25 | 7.5 | 25mcg | 0.125 | 1 |
| 10 | 30 | 60 | 5 | 30 | 2.5-5 | 20 | 5 | 15 | 30 | 2.5 | 15 | 25mcg | 0.25 | 1.5 |
| 15 | 45 | 90 | 7.5 | 45 | 5 | 30 | 7.5 | 25 | 50 | 3.75 | 25 | 25mcg | 0.5 | 3 |
| 20 | 60 | 120 | 10 | 60 | 7.5 | 40 | 10 | 30 | 60 | 5 | 30 | 50mcg | 0.75 | 4 |
| 30 | 90 | 180 | 15 | 90 | 10 | 60 | 15 | 45 | 90 | 7.5 | 45 | 50mcg | 1 | 6 |
| 40 | 120 | 240 | 20 | 120 | 12.5 | 80 | 20 | 60 | 120 | 10 | 60 | 75mcg | 1.25 | 8 |
| 50 | 150 | 300 | 25 | 150 | 15 | 100 | 25 | 75 | 150 | 12.5 | 75 | 75mcg | 1.5 | 10 |
| 60 | 180 | 360 | 30 | 180 | 20 | 120 | 30 | 90 | 180 | 15 | 90 | 100mcg | 2 | 12 |
| 70 | 210 | 420 | 35 | 210 | 25 | 140 | 35 | 105 | 210 | 17.5 | 100 | 125mcg | 2.5 | 14 |
| 80 | 240 | 480 | 40 | 240 | 27.5 | 160 | 40 | 120 | 240 | 20 | 120 | 125mcg | 2.5 | 16 |
| 90 | 270 | 540 | 45 | 270 | 30 | 180 | 45 | 135 | 270 | Max | 135 | 150mcg | 3 | 18 |
| 100 | 300 | 600 | 50 | 300 | 35 | 200 | 50 | 150 | 300 | sub- | 150 | 150mcg | 3.5 | 20 |
| 110 | 330 | 660 | 55 | 330 | 37.5 | 220 | 55 | 165 | 330 | cut | 165 | 175mcg | 3.75 | 22 |
| 120 | 360 | 720 | 60 | 360 | 40 | 240 | 60 | 180 | 360 | vol | 180 | 200mcg | 4 | 24 |