

Opioids, Pain Medications & New Therapies HPMI Nursing CPD 20/08/2020 Take Home Summary

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1. Opioids and the Body

- Bioavailability
- Onset of action
- Opioid naïve/tolerant

2. Opioid Agents

- Hydromorphone potency
- Patch Safety
- Pill ID using eMIMs

3. Calculations

- Oral morphine equivalents (OME)
- 'Safety factor' or incomplete cross tolerance
- eviQ opioid conversion example
- Video at:

<https://education.eviq.org.au/rapid-learning/topic-4-principles-of-opioid-conversion>

- Opioid Conversion calculator at:

<https://www.eviq.org.au/clinical-resources/eviq-calculators/3201-opioid-conversion-calculator>

Example- Change in Opioid and Route:

- Patient Mary takes MS Contin (morphine sulfate) 30mg BD
- Calculate OME
- = ____

- Change in opioid and route required
- Subcut Hydromorphone Q4H has been prescribed

- Calc equiv 24h dose of Hydromorphone
- Use eviQ conversion calculator
- = ____

- Divide by 6 to get Q4H dose = ____
- Dose reduction for incomplete cross tolerance has not occurred in this example. Safe only in certain settings!!

- What volume of Dilaudid (hydromorphone) is required using 2 mg/mL ampoule?
- = ____

Example-Different breakthrough opioid compared to regular opioid:

- Patient Bob uses Durogesic (fentanyl) 75 microg/hr patches Q72H
- Endone (oxycodone immediate release) has been prescribed as breakthrough
- What is equivalent daily dose of oxycodone?

- EviQ opioid conversion calculator does this in one step
- Can also be done by calculating OME and memorising conversion factors
- = ____

- Breakthrough dose is 1/6 to 1/12 of daily dose or ~ 1/10
- = ____

- What if breakthrough opioid was hydromorphone?
- Daily dose of hydromorphone = ____
- Breakthrough dose is = ____

4. New Therapies/Changes



- Take home naloxone
- Depot buprenorphine
- Medicinal cannabis

Useful Resources

HNELHD HealthPathways <https://hne.communityhealthpathways.org/> Username: hnehealth Password: p1thw1ys

Chronic Non-Cancer Pain, Chronic Opioid Use and Deprescribing, Opioid Conversion Guidelines, Prescribing in Renal Impairment, Pain Management in Palliative Care, Management of Breakthrough Pain, Pain in the Last Days of Life, Breathlessness in the Last Days of Life

NPS Medicinewise <https://www.nps.org.au/professionals/opioids-chronic-pain>

Australian Prescriber Article 'Prescribing wellness: comprehensive pain management outside specialist services' <https://www.nps.org.au/australian-prescriber/articles/prescribing-wellness-comprehensive-pain-management-outside-specialist-services>

Hunter Integrated Pain Service <http://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/Pain/Pages/Pain.aspx>

Pain Australia <https://www.painaustralia.org.au/health-professionals/education-training-1>

Permission To Move <https://www.permissiontomove.com/patient-resources>

Caresearch <https://www.caresearch.com.au/> search pain/managing opioids/opioid analgesics

CEC Education Safe Use of Hydromorphone <http://www.cec.health.nsw.gov.au/keep-patients-safe/medication-safety-and-quality/high-risk-medicines/education>