

**HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION**

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use OXYMORPHONE HYDROCHLORIDE EXTENDED-RELEASE TABLETS safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for OXYMORPHONE HYDROCHLORIDE EXTENDED-RELEASE TABLETS.

OXYMORPHONE HYDROCHLORIDE extended-release tablets, for oral use, CII

Initial U.S. Approval: 1959

**WARNING: ADDICTION, ABUSE, AND MISUSE; LIFE-THREATENING RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION; ACCIDENTAL INGESTION; NEONATAL OPIOID WITHDRAWAL SYNDROME; and INTERACTION WITH ALCOHOL**

See full prescribing information for complete boxed warning.

- Oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets expose users to risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death. Assess each patient’s risk before prescribing, and monitor regularly for development of these behaviors or conditions. (5.1)
- Serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression may occur. Monitor closely, especially upon initiation or following a dose increase. Instruct patients to swallow oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets whole to avoid exposure to a potentially fatal dose of oxymorphone. (5.2)
- Accidental ingestion of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets, especially in children, can result in fatal overdose of oxymorphone. (5.2)
- Prolonged use of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets during pregnancy can result in neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, which may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated. If opioid use is required for a prolonged period in a pregnant woman, advise the patient of the risk of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and ensure that appropriate treatment will be available (5.3).
- Instruct patients not to consume alcohol or any product containing alcohol while taking oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets because co-ingestion can result in fatal plasma oxymorphone levels. (5.4)

-----RECENT MAJOR CHANGES-----

Boxed Warning	4/2014
Indications and Usage (1)	4/2014
Dosage and Administration (2)	4/2014
Warnings and Precautions (5)	4/2014

-----INDICATIONS AND USAGE-----

Oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets are an opioid agonist indicated for the management of pain severe enough to require daily, around-the-clock, long-term opioid treatment and for which alternative treatment options are inadequate. (1)

Limitations of Use

- Because of the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse with opioids, even at recommended doses, and because of the greater risks of overdose and death with extended-release opioid formulations, reserve oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets for use in patients for whom alternative treatment options (e.g., non-opioid analgesics or immediate-release opioids) are ineffective, not tolerated, or would be otherwise inadequate to provide sufficient management of pain. (1)
- Oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets are not indicated as an as-needed (prn) analgesic. (1)

-----DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION-----

- For opioid-naïve and opioid non-tolerant patients, initiate with 5 mg tablets orally every 12 hours. (2.1)
- To convert to oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets from another opioid, use available conversion factors to obtain estimated dose. (2.1)

- Dose can be increased every 3 to 7 days, using increments of 5 to 10 mg every 12 hours (i.e., 10 to 20 mg per day). (2.2)
- Administer on an empty stomach, at least 1 hour prior to or 2 hours after eating. (2.1)
- Oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets should be taken one tablet at a time, with enough water to ensure complete swallowing immediately after placing in the mouth. (2.1, 17)
- Do not abruptly discontinue oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets in a physically dependent patient. (2.3, 5.13)
- Instruct patients to swallow oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets intact. (2.4)
- Reduce the dose of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets in patients with mild hepatic impairment and patients with renal impairment. (2.5, 2.6)

-----DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS-----

Extended-release tablets: 5 mg, 7.5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg, 30 mg, and 40 mg

-----CONTRAINDICATIONS-----

- Significant respiratory depression (4)
- Acute or severe bronchial asthma (4)
- Known or suspected paralytic ileus and gastrointestinal obstruction (4)
- Hypersensitivity to oxymorphone (4)
- Moderate or severe hepatic impairment (4)

-----WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS-----

**See Boxed WARNINGS**

- Interaction with CNS depressants: Concomitant use may cause profound sedation, respiratory depression, and death. If coadministration is required, consider dose reduction of one or both drugs because of additive pharmacological effects. (5.4)
- Elderly, cachectic, and debilitated patients and those with chronic pulmonary disease: Monitor closely because of increased risk for life-threatening respiratory depression. (5.5, 5.6)
- Hypotensive effect: Monitor during dose initiation and titration. (5.8)
- Patients with head injury or increased intracranial pressure: Monitor for sedation and respiratory depression. Avoid use of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets in patients with impaired consciousness or coma susceptible to intracranial effects of CO<sub>2</sub> retention. (5.9)
- Use with caution in patients who have difficulty in swallowing or have underlying GI disorders that may predispose them to obstruction. (5.10)

-----ADVERSE REACTIONS-----

Adverse reactions in ≥2% of patients in placebo-controlled trials: nausea, constipation, dizziness, somnolence, vomiting, pruritus, headache, sweating increased, dry mouth, sedation, diarrhea, insomnia, fatigue, appetite decreased, and abdominal pain. (6.1)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact [company name] at [phone number] or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).

-----DRUG INTERACTIONS-----

Mixed agonist/antagonist and partial agonist opioid analgesics: Avoid use with oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets because they may reduce analgesic effect of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets or precipitate withdrawal symptoms. (7.3)

-----USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS-----

- Pregnancy: Based on animal data, may cause fetal harm. (8.1)
- Nursing mothers: Closely monitor infants of nursing women receiving oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets. (8.3)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION and Medication Guide

Revised: 01/2015

**FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: CONTENTS\***

**WARNING: ADDICTION, ABUSE, AND MISUSE; LIFE-THREATENING RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION; ACCIDENTAL INGESTION; NEONATAL OPIOID WITHDRAWAL SYNDROME; and INTERACTION WITH ALCOHOL**

**Boxed Warning**

- 1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE**
- 2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**
  - 2.1 Initial Dosing
  - 2.2 Titration and Maintenance of Therapy
  - 2.3 Discontinuation of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets
  - 2.4 Administration of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets
  - 2.5 Patients with Hepatic Impairment
  - 2.6 Patients with Renal Impairment
  - 2.7 Geriatric Patients
- 3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS**
- 4 CONTRAINDICATIONS**
- 5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**
  - 5.1 Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse Potential
  - 5.2 Life Threatening Respiratory Depression
  - 5.3 Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome
  - 5.4 Interaction with Central Nervous System Depressants
  - 5.5 Use in Elderly, Cachectic, and Debilitated Patients
  - 5.6 Use in Patients with Chronic Pulmonary Disease
  - 5.7 Use in Patients with Hepatic Impairment
  - 5.8 Hypotensive Effect
  - 5.9 Use in Patients with Head Injury or Increased Intracranial Pressure
  - 5.10 Difficulty in Swallowing and Risk for Obstruction in Patients at Risk for a Small Gastrointestinal Lumen
  - 5.11 Use in Patients with Gastrointestinal Conditions
  - 5.12 Use in Patients with Convulsive or Seizure Disorders
  - 5.13 Avoidance of Withdrawal
  - 5.14 Driving and Operating Machinery

- 6 ADVERSE REACTIONS**
  - 6.1 Clinical Trial Experience
  - 6.2 Post-marketing Experience
- 7 DRUG INTERACTIONS**
  - 7.1 Alcohol
  - 7.2 CNS Depressants
  - 7.3 Interactions with Mixed Agonist/Antagonist and Partial Agonist Opioid Analgesics
  - 7.4 Muscle Relaxants
  - 7.5 Cimetidine
  - 7.6 Anticholinergics
- 8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS**
  - 8.1 Pregnancy
  - 8.2 Labor and Delivery
  - 8.3 Nursing Mothers
  - 8.4 Pediatric Use
  - 8.5 Geriatric Use
  - 8.6 Hepatic Impairment
  - 8.7 Renal Impairment
- 9 DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE**
  - 9.1 Controlled Substance
  - 9.2 Abuse
  - 9.3 Dependence
- 10 OVERDOSAGE**
- 11 DESCRIPTION**
- 12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**
  - 12.1 Mechanism of Action
  - 12.2 Pharmacodynamics
  - 12.3 Pharmacokinetics
- 13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY**
  - 13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility
- 14 CLINICAL STUDIES**
- 16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING**
- 17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION**

**\*Sections or subsections omitted from the full prescribing information are not listed.**

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**Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse**

Oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets expose patients and other users to the risks of opioid addiction, abuse, and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death. Assess each patient's risk prior to prescribing oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets, and monitor all patients regularly for the development of these behaviors or conditions [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*].

**Life-threatening Respiratory Depression**

Serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression may occur with use of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets. Monitor for respiratory depression, especially during initiation of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets or following a dose increase. Instruct patients to swallow oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets whole; crushing, chewing, or dissolving oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets can cause rapid release and absorption of a potentially fatal dose of oxymorphone [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

**Accidental Ingestion**

Accidental ingestion of even one dose of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets, especially by children, can result in a fatal overdose of oxymorphone [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

**Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome**

Prolonged use of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets during pregnancy can result in neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, which may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated, and requires management according to protocols developed by neonatology experts. If opioid use is required for a prolonged period in a pregnant woman, advise the patient of the risk of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and ensure that appropriate treatment will be available [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.3)*].

**Interaction with Alcohol**

Instruct patients not to consume alcoholic beverages or use prescription or non-prescription products that contain alcohol while taking oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets. The co-ingestion of alcohol with oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets may result in increased plasma levels and a potentially fatal overdose of oxymorphone [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.4)*].

**1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE**

Oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets are indicated for the management of pain severe enough to require daily, around-the-clock, long-term opioid treatment and for which alternative treatment options are inadequate.

**Limitations of Use**

- Because of the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse with opioids, even at recommended doses, and because of the greater risks of overdose and death with extended-release opioid formulations, reserve oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets for use in patients for whom alternative treatment options (e.g., non-opioid analgesics or immediate-release opioids) are ineffective, not tolerated, or would be otherwise inadequate to provide sufficient management of pain.
- Oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets are not indicated as an as-needed (prn) analgesic.

**2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**2.1 Initial Dosing**

To avoid medication errors, prescribers and pharmacists must be aware that oxymorphone is available as both immediate-release 5 mg and 10 mg tablets and extended-release 5 mg and 10 mg tablets [see *Dosage Forms and Strengths (3)*].

Oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets should be prescribed only by healthcare professionals who are knowledgeable in the use of potent opioids for the management of chronic pain.

Initiate the dosing regimen for each patient individually, taking into account the patient's prior analgesic treatment experience and risk factors for addiction, abuse, and misuse [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*]. Monitor patients closely for respiratory depression, especially within the first 24-72 hours of initiating therapy with oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*].

Oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets must be taken whole, one tablet at a time, with enough water to ensure complete

oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets will result in uncontrolled delivery of oxymorphone and can lead to overdose or death [see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)].

Oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets are administered at a frequency of twice daily (every 12 hours). Administer on an empty stomach, at least 1 hour prior to or 2 hours after eating.

Use of Oxymorphone Hydrochloride Extended-Release Tablets as the First Opioid Analgesic

Initiate treatment with oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets with the 5 mg tablet orally every 12-hours.

Use of Oxymorphone Hydrochloride Extended-Release Tablets in Patients who are not Opioid Tolerant

The starting dose for patients who are not opioid tolerant is oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets 5 mg orally every 12 hours. Patients who are opioid tolerant are those receiving, for one week or longer, at least 60 mg oral morphine per day, 25 mcg transdermal fentanyl per hour, 30 mg oral oxycodone per day, 8 mg oral hydromorphone per day, 25 mg oral oxymorphone per day, or an equianalgesic dose of another opioid.

Use of higher starting doses in patients who are not opioid tolerant may cause fatal respiratory depression.

Conversion from OPANA to Oxymorphone Hydrochloride Extended-Release Tablets

Patients receiving OPANA may be converted to oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets by administering half the patient's total daily oral OPANA dose as oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets, every 12 hours.

Conversion from Parenteral Oxymorphone to Oxymorphone Hydrochloride Extended-Release Tablets

The absolute oral bioavailability of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets are approximately 10%. Convert patients receiving parenteral oxymorphone to oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets by administering 10 times the patient's total daily parenteral oxymorphone dose as oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets in two equally divided doses (e.g., [IV dose x 10] divided by 2). Due to patient variability with regards to opioid analgesic response, upon conversion monitor patients closely to evaluate for adequate analgesia and side effects.

Conversion from Other Oral Opioids to Oxymorphone Hydrochloride Extended-Release Tablets

Discontinue all other around-the-clock opioid drugs when oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets therapy is initiated.

While there are useful tables of opioid equivalents readily available, there is substantial inter-patient variability in the relative potency of different opioid drugs and products. As such, it is preferable to underestimate a patient's 24-hour oral oxymorphone requirements and provide rescue medication (e.g., immediate-release opioid) than to overestimate the 24-hour oral oxymorphone requirements which could result in adverse reactions. In an oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets clinical trial with an open-label titration period, patients were converted from their prior opioid to oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets using Table 1 as a guide for the initial oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets dose.

Consider the following when using the information in Table 1:

- This is **not** a table of equianalgesic doses.
- The conversion factors in this table are only for the conversion **from** one of the listed oral opioid analgesics **to** oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets.
- This table **cannot** be used to convert **from** oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets **to** another opioid. Doing so will result in an overestimation of the dose of the new opioid and may result in fatal overdose.

CONVERSION FACTORS TO OXYMORPHONE HYDROCHLORIDE EXTENDED-RELEASE TABLETS	
Prior Oral Opioid	Approximate Oral Conversion Factor
Oxymorphone	1
Hydrocodone	0.5
Oxycodone	0.5
Methadone	0.5
Morphine	0.333

To calculate the estimated oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets dose using Table 1:

- For patients on a single opioid, sum the current total daily dose of the opioid and then multiply the total daily dose by the conversion factor to calculate the approximate oral oxymorphone daily dose.
- For patients on a regimen of more than one opioid, calculate the approximate oral oxymorphone dose for each opioid and sum the totals to obtain the approximate total oxymorphone daily dose.

Always round the dose down, if necessary, to the appropriate oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets strength(s) available.

Example conversion from a single opioid to oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets:

Step 1: Sum the total daily dose of the opioid oxycodone 20 mg BID

20 mg former opioid 2 times daily = 40 mg total daily dose of former opioid

Step 2: Calculate the approximate equivalent dose of oral oxymorphone based on the total daily dose of the current opioid using Table 1

40 mg total daily dose of former opioid x 0.5 mg Conversion Factor = 20 mg of oral oxymorphone daily

Step 3: Calculate the approximate starting dose of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets to be given every 12 hours. Round down, if necessary, to the appropriate oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablet strengths available.

10 mg oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets every 12 hours

#### Conversion from Methadone to Oxymorphone Hydrochloride Extended-Release Tablets

Close monitoring is of particular importance when converting from methadone to other opioid agonists. The ratio between methadone and other opioid agonists may vary widely as a function of previous dose exposure. Methadone has a long half-life and can accumulate in the plasma.

### **2.2 Titration and Maintenance of Therapy**

Individually titrate oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets to a dose that provides adequate analgesia and minimizes adverse reactions. Continually reevaluate patients receiving oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets to assess the maintenance of pain control and the relative incidence of adverse reactions, as well as monitoring for the development of addiction, abuse, and misuse. Frequent communication is important among the prescriber, other members of the healthcare team, the patient, and the caregiver/family during periods of changing analgesic requirements, including initial titration. During chronic therapy, periodically reassess the continued need for the use of opioid analgesics.

If the level of pain increases, attempt to identify the source of increased pain, while adjusting the oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets dose to decrease the level of pain. Because steady-state plasma concentrations are approximated within 3 days, oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets dosage adjustments, preferably at increments of 5-10 mg every 12 hours, may be done every 3 to 7 days.

Patients who experience breakthrough pain may require a dose increase of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets, or may need rescue medication with an appropriate dose of an immediate-release analgesic. If the level of pain increases after dose stabilization, attempt to identify the source of increased pain before increasing oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets dose.

If unacceptable opioid-related adverse reactions are observed, the subsequent dose may be reduced. Adjust the dose to obtain an appropriate balance between management of pain and opioid-related adverse reactions.

### **2.3 Discontinuation of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets**

When a patient no longer requires therapy with oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets, use a gradual downward titration of the dose every two to four days, to prevent signs and symptoms of withdrawal in the physically-dependent patient. Do not abruptly discontinue oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets.

### **2.4 Administration of oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets**

Instruct patients to swallow oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets intact. The tablets are not to be crushed, dissolved, or chewed due to the risk of rapid release and absorption of a potentially fatal dose of oxymorphone [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*]. Administer on an empty stomach, at least 1 hour prior to or 2 hours after eating.

### **2.5 Patients with Hepatic Impairment**

Oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets are contraindicated in patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment.

In opioid-naïve patients with mild hepatic impairment, initiate treatment with the 5 mg dose. For patients on prior opioid therapy, start oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets at 50% lower than the starting dose for a patient with normal hepatic function on prior opioids and titrate slowly. Monitor patients closely for signs of respiratory or central nervous system depression [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.2)*, *Use in Specific Populations (8.6)* and *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*].

### **2.6 Patients with Renal Impairment**

In patients with creatinine clearance rates less than 50 mL/min, start oxymorphone hydrochloride extended-release tablets in the

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