



Hydromorphone

Information for patients

UHN

Read this medicine fact sheet to learn about:

- What this medicine is
- Why you need to take it
- What side effects to watch for

What is the name of my medicine?

Hydromorphone (pronounced hye - dro - MOR - fone)

Other names for this medicine:

Dilaudid®	Hydromorph Contin®
Jurnista™	PMS-Hydromorphone
Teva-Hydromorphone	

Why do I need to take this medicine?

- To ease pain.



Remember, this medicine may be addictive if you take it for a long time. It may slow down breathing too much. Don't drink beer, wine, mixed drinks, or any drugs that slow you down.

Talk with your doctor if you have:

- a drug or drinking problem
- liver disease
- seizures

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How do I take this medicine?

Long-acting tablets:

- Swallow tablets whole. Do not chew, break or crush tablets.
- Do not use long-acting tablets for fast pain relief.
- Take it with food if it upsets your stomach.

Short acting and long-acting tablets:

- Drink lots of liquids with no caffeine unless told to drink less liquid by your doctor.
- Do not take this medicine with other strong pain medicines or if you are using a pain patch without talking to your doctor first.
- Keep a pain diary. This means writing down what your level of pain is and how much pain medicine you take.
- If you have been taking this medicine for many weeks, talk with your doctor before stopping. You and your doctor may talk about how to slowly decrease the amount you take.

Tell your doctor if you have any allergies.

What are the side effects of this medicine?

- Feeling lightheaded, sleepy, having blurred eyesight, or a change in thinking clearly
- Dizziness
- Upset stomach or throwing up
- Hard stools or constipation. Drink more liquids, exercise or eat foods high in fibre. Talk with your doctor about taking a stool softener or laxative.

Call your doctor right away if you notice:

- **Signs of an allergic reaction:** rash, hives, itching, red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever, wheezing, tightness in the chest or throat, trouble breathing or talking, or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue or throat
- Poor pain control
- Side effect that is not better or you are feeling worse

**Call your doctor if you have any questions about the side effects.
Go to your local emergency room if you think there has been an overdose.**

What should I do if I miss a dose?

- Take a missed dose as soon as you think about it.
- If it is close to the time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your normal time.

Who do I talk to if I have a problem or question?

This pamphlet does not cover all of the side effects that may happen. Please contact a pharmacist or other health care professionals if you have any questions about this medicine or the side effects.

This site does not provide medical advice.
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