

Drug Fact Sheet

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Oxycodone

Overview

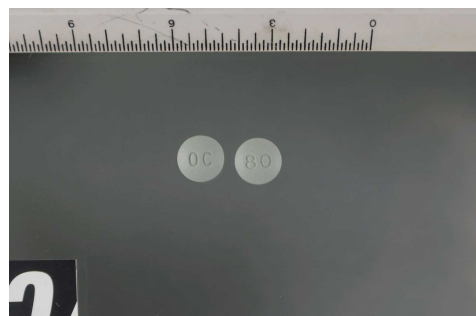
Oxycodone is used as a semi-synthetic narcotic analgesic and historically has been a popular drug of abuse among the narcotic abusing population.

Street names

Hillbilly Heroin, Kicker, OC, Ox, Oxy, Oxycotton

Looks like

Oxycodone is marketed alone as 10, 20, 40, 80, and 160 mg controlled-release tablets, OxyContin®, or 5 mg immediate-release capsules, OxyIR®. It is also marketed in combination products with aspirin such as Percodan® or acetaminophen such as Percocet®.



Methods of abuse

Oxycodone is abused orally or intravenously; the tablets are crushed and sniffed or dissolved in water and injected.

Affect on mind

Euphoria and feelings of relaxation are the most common effects of oxycodone on the brain, which explains its high potential for abuse. In recent years, concern has grown among federal, state, and local officials about the dramatic increase in the illicit availability and use of OxyContin® products. The criminal activity associated with illicitly obtaining and distributing this drug, as well as serious consequences of illicit use, including addiction and fatal overdose deaths, are of epidemic proportion in some areas of the United States.

Affect on body

Physiological effects of oxycodone include pain relief, sedation, respiratory depression, constipation, papillary constriction, and cough suppression.

Drugs causing similar effects

Opium, Codeine, Heroin, Methadone, Hydrocodone, Fentanyl, Morphine

Overdose effects

Overdose effects include extreme drowsiness, muscle weakness, confusion, cold and clammy skin, pinpoint pupils, shallow breathing, slow heart rate, fainting, coma, or possible death.

Legal status in the United States

Oxycodone products are in Schedule II of the federal Controlled Substances Act of 1970. Many States have launched efforts to curb the illegal use of OxyContin®. For example, Louisiana, Maine, Virginia, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee have enacted legislation to deal with this issue. California, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, and Washington

have established prescription monitoring programs. Many more States are working to establish legislation and prescription monitoring programs to deal with diverted pharmaceuticals.

Common places of origin

Oxycodone is synthesized from thebaine, a constituent of the poppy plant.

This content came from a United States Government, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) website, www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com.

