

OXYMORPHONE

An opioid prescription pain reliever.

ABOUT OXYMORPHONE

- Schedule II substance approved for medical treatment.
- Has a high potential for abuse.
- Illegal to possess in the U.S. without a prescription.
- Often sold and purchased off the streets by recreational users.
- Approximately 8 times stronger than morphine and 2 times stronger than OxyContin.

ABUSE

Abusers crush the tablets and snort the resulting powder. Or they remove the tablets' coating by placing the tablets in their mouth until the coating dissolves, using a damp washcloth to wipe off the coating, or shaving the tablets with a razor. Snorting, oral ingestion, and injections are some reported routes of administration.

Demographics are similar to other opioid analgesics and mainly include young Caucasian adults.

Methods of diversion include fraudulent and forged prescriptions, robberies, theft and trafficking organizations.

EFFECTS

Oxymorphone abuse can be particularly dangerous. Its high fades rapidly, requiring additional doses to maintain euphoria and increasing the risk of developing a serious narcotic habit. The drug is also more potent than oxycodone, yielding a risk of unintentional overdose.

Constipation; dizziness; drowsiness; dry mouth; headache; mild itching; nausea; sweating; vomiting. Long-term abuse symptoms and overdosage are characterized by: respiratory depression, extreme somno-lence, stupor or coma, skeletal muscle flaccidity, cold and clammy skin, constipation, fatigue, dizziness, nausea, lightheadedness, headache, dry mouth, pruritus, diaphoresis, bradycardia and hypotension. In a severe case of overdose, apnea, circulatory collapse, cardiac arrest, and death may occur.

REASONS TO ADD TO YOUR DRUG PANEL

- Prescription drug abuse is the nation's fastest growing problem according to the White House Office on National Drug Policy.
- Nassau County, N.Y. issued a 2011 health alert after an alarming spike in use.
- A DEA briefing noted that users switched from OxyContin to Oxymorphone.
- According to the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy, Oxymorphone was present in the blood of 23% of overdose victims (2011).
- The Centers for Disease Control says the abuse of Opana is an epidemic.

TRADE NAMES

Opana - Opana ER
Numorphan - Numorphone



SLANG / STREET TERMS

Biscuits, Blue Heaven, Blues,
New Blues, Octagons,
Oranges, Stop Signs, Pink,
Pink Heaven, Pink Lady,
Mrs O, Orgasna IR, OM, Pink
O, The O Bomb

...and others



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