



ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE

Tapentadol

Scope (Staff): All WNHS Staff

Scope (Area): Obstetrics and Gynaecology

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#).

Quick Links

[Dose](#)

[Administration](#)

[Monitoring](#)

[Pregnancy and Breastfeeding](#)

Restrictions

[Formulary: Restricted \(slow release tablet\)](#)

Non-Formulary - [IPA Required \(immediate release tablet\)](#)

[HIGH RISK Medication](#) 

Medication Class

Analgesics

Presentation

Immediate Release Tablets: 50mg

Slow Release Tablets: 50mg, 100mg, 150mg

Storage

Store at room temperature, below 30°C.

Protect from light (slow release).

Schedule 8 Medication

Dose

Moderate to Severe Pain

Doses vary and depend on the indication and previous analgesic requirements.

Titrate dose according to response, respiratory rate and sedation score.

Suggested starting dose (immediate release): 50 mg every 4 to 6 hours (a second 50 mg dose can be taken 1 hour after the initial dose if required). Usual maintenance 50 to 100mg every 4 to 6 hours. Maximum 600 mg in 24 hours (700 mg on day 1).

Suggested starting dose (slow release tablets): 50 mg twice daily, increasing by 50 mg twice daily every 3 days if required. Maximum 500 mg in 24 hours.

Doses may need reducing in moderate hepatic impairment.

Administration

Slow release tablets: Swallow whole. Do not break, crush or chew.

Monitoring

Respiratory rate, sedation score, dependence, constipation

Pregnancy

Consider alternative

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service](#).

Breastfeeding

Consider alternative, caution advised

For more information, please contact [KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service](#).

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

Department of Health

[Recommendations for prescribing analgesia on discharge following surgery or acute injury](#)

[CCC Report on the Supply and Management of Schedule 8 Controlled Drugs at Certain Public Hospitals in Western Australia](#)

WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines:

[Palliative Care](#)

[Acute Pain Service](#)

[Pre-operative Medication Management](#)

[Gynaecology \(Non-oncological\)](#)

Patient Information Leaflet:

[Medicines used to manage pain](#)

[Post-operative pain control](#)

WNHS Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

[Anaesthetic technician competency framework for handling of controlled substances](#)

[Reporting of S8 or S4R medicine discrepancies](#)

References

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