

PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER

OxyNorm® 10 mg/ml solution for injection or infusion
OxyNorm® 50 mg/ml solution for injection or infusion
Oxycodone hydrochloride

This medicine contains oxycodone which is an opioid, which can cause addiction. You can get withdrawal symptoms if you stop taking it suddenly.

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.

Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again. If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist. This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.

1. What OxyNorm injection is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you use OxyNorm injection
3. How to use OxyNorm injection
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store OxyNorm injection
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What OxyNorm injection is and what it is used for
This medicine has been prescribed for you for the relief of moderate to severe pain if contains oxycodone which belongs to a class of medicines called opioids, which are pain relievers. This medicine has been prescribed for you and should not be given to anyone else. Opioids can cause addiction and you may get withdrawal symptoms if you stop taking it suddenly. Your prescribing should have explained how long you will be using it for and when it is appropriate to stop, how to do this safely.

2. What you need to know before you use OxyNorm injection
Do not use OxyNorm injection if you:
- are allergic (hypersensitive) to oxycodone, or any of the other ingredients of the injection (listed in section 6 of this leaflet).

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You may experience hormonal changes while taking this medicine. Your doctor may want to monitor these changes. Contact your doctor if you experience severe upper abdominal pain possibly radiating to the back, nausea, vomiting or fever as this could be symptoms associated with inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis) and the biliary tract system. Side-related breathing disorders

OxyNorm injection can cause sleep-related breathing disorders such as sleep apnoea (breathing pauses during sleep) and sleep related hypoxemia (low oxygen level in the blood). The symptoms can include breathing pauses during sleep, night awakening due to shortness of breath, difficulties to maintain sleep or excessive drowsiness during the day. If you or another person observe these symptoms, contact your doctor. A dose reduction may be considered by your doctor.

This medicine contains oxycodone which is an opioid medicine. Repeated use of opioid painkillers can result in the drug being less effective (you become accustomed to it, known as tolerance). Repeated use of OxyNorm injection can also lead to dependence, abuse, and addiction, which may result in life-threatening overdose. The risk of these side effects can increase with a higher dose and longer duration of use.

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The risk of becoming dependent or addicted varies from person to person. You may have a greater risk of becoming dependent or addicted to OxyNorm injection if:
- You or anyone in your family have ever abused or been dependent on alcohol, prescription medicines or illegal drugs ('addiction').
- You are a smoker.
- You have ever had problems with your mood (depression, anxiety or a personality disorder) or have been treated by a psychiatrist for other mental illnesses.

If you notice any of the following signs whilst using OxyNorm injection, it could be a sign that you have become dependent or addicted:
- You need to take the medicine for longer than advised by your doctor.
- You need to take more than the recommended dose.
- You are using the medicine for reasons other than prescribed, for instance, 'to stay calm' or 'help you sleep'.
- You have made repeated, unsuccessful attempts to quit or control the use of the medicine.
- When you stop taking the medicine you feel unwell, and/or you feel better once taking the medicine again (withdrawal effects).

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Overuse and misuse can lead to overdose and/or death.
Other medicines and OxyNorm injection
Using OxyNorm injection at the same time as other medicines that slow down the central nervous system can cause slow or difficulty breathing (respiratory depression), severe sleepiness, loss of consciousness and death. These medicines include:
- other medicines used to treat pain known as opioids (such as codeine or morphine);
- medicines used to treat epilepsy (gabapentinoids) such as pregabalin;
- medicines used to treat anxiety;
- medicines used to make you feel sleepy (such as benzodiazepines);
- medicines used to treat psychiatric or mental disorders (such as phenothiazines);
- anaesthetics;
- muscle relaxants;
- medicines used to treat high blood pressure;
- a type of medicine used to treat depression known as monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs), such as tranylcypromine, phenelzine and isocarboxazid. You should not use OxyNorm injection if you are currently taking this type of medicine, or have taken this medicine in the last two weeks.

Because of this, your doctor will only prescribe OxyNorm injection where there are no other treatment options, and only in small doses for short periods of time. If you or your friends, family or caregivers notice that you are having difficulty breathing or that you have become very sleepy or lost consciousness (or they) should inform your doctor immediately.
Using OxyNorm injection with medicines used to treat depression known as Selective Serotonin Re-uptake Inhibitors (SSRIs) or Serotonin Norepinephrine Re-uptake Inhibitors (SNRIs) can cause a condition known as serotonin toxicity. The symptoms of this include agitation, seeing or hearing things that aren't real (hallucinations), loss of consciousness, a fast heartbeat, blood pressure changes, increased body temperature, muscle twitching, lack of coordination, stiffness, feeling or being sick, or diarrhoea. If you are taking SSRIs or SNRI medicines such as citalopram, duloxetine, escitalopram, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, paroxetine,

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sertraline or venlafaxine your doctor may reduce your dose of OxyNorm injection.
Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any of the following medicines, as they may need to adjust your dose:
- a type of medicine used to treat depression known as tricyclic antidepressants, such as amitriptyline, clomipramine, imipramine, lofepramine or nortriptyline;
- medicines used to treat allergies, such as cetirizine, fexofenadine or chlorpheniramine;
- medicines used to treat Parkinson's disease;
- antibiotics such as clarithromycin, erythromycin or telitromycin;
- antifungal medicines such as ketconazole, voriconazole, itraconazole and posaconazole;
- medicines used to treat HIV known as protease inhibitors, such as boceprevir, ritonavir, indinavir, nelfinavir or saquinavir;
- cimetidine, a medicine used to treat stomach ulcers;
- ritampicin, a medicine used to treat tuberculosis;
- medicines used to treat seizures, fits or convulsions such as carbamazepine and phenytoin;
- a herbal remedy used to treat depression known as St. John's Wort (also known as hypericum perforatum);
- quinidine, a medicine used to treat an irregular heartbeat.

Using OxyNorm injection with food, drink and alcohol
Drinking alcohol during your treatment with OxyNorm injection may make you sleepy or increase the risk of serious side effects such as shallow breathing with a risk of stopping breathing, and loss of consciousness. It is recommended that you do not drink alcohol while you are taking OxyNorm injection.
You should avoid drinking grapefruit juice during your treatment with this medicine.

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Information for Health Professionals

OxyNorm® 10 mg/ml solution for injection or infusion
OxyNorm® 50 mg/ml solution for injection or infusion
Oxycodone hydrochloride

This leaflet provides technical information for the healthcare professional about OxyNorm 10 mg/ml and 50 mg/ml solution for injection or infusion. For full prescribing information please refer to the Summary of Product Characteristics at www.medicines.org.uk.

Posology and method of administration
The dose should be adjusted according to the severity of pain, the total condition of the patient and previous or concurrent medication.

Adults over 18 years:
The following starting doses are recommended. A gradual increase in dose may be required if analgesia is inadequate or if pain severity increases.
i.v. (Boliu): Dilute to 1 mg/ml in 0.9% saline, 5% dextrose or water for injections. Administer a bolus dose of 1 to 10 mg slowly over 1-2 minutes in opioid naive patients). Doses should not be administered more frequently than every 4 hours.
i.v. (infusion): Dilute to 1 mg/ml in 0.9% saline, 5% dextrose or water for injections. A starting dose of 2 mg/hour is recommended for opioid naive patients.

There are no data on the use of OxyNorm injection in patients under 18 years of age.
Routes of administration:
Subcutaneous injection or infusion.
Intravenous injection or infusion.

Discontinuation of treatment:
When a patient no longer requires therapy with oxycodone, it may be advisable to taper the dose gradually to prevent symptoms of withdrawal.
Overdose
Acute overdose with oxycodone can be manifested by miosis, respiratory depression, hypotension and hallucinations. Nausea and vomiting are common in less severe cases. Non-cardiac pulmonary oedema and rhabdomyolysis are particularly common after intravenous injection of opioid analgesics. Circulatory failure and somnolence progressing to stupor or coma, hypotonia, bradycardia, pulmonary oedema and death may occur in more severe cases. Patients should be informed of the signs and symptoms of overdose and to ensure that family and friends are also aware of these signs and to seek immediate medical help if they occur. The effects of overdose will be potentiated by the simultaneous ingestion of alcohol or other psychotropic drugs.
Treatment of overdose
Primary attention should be given to the establishment of a patent airway and institution of assisted or controlled ventilation. The pure opioid antagonists such as naloxone are specific antidotes against symptoms from opioid overdose. Other supportive measures should be employed as needed.

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Instructions for use/handling

This medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products except those mentioned below.

Precipitation has been shown to occur in mixtures with **OxyNorm** injection at cyclidine concentrations greater than 3 mg/ml or when diluted with 0.9% saline. It is recommended that water for injections be used as a diluent when cyclidine and oxycodone hydrochloride are co-administered either intravenously or subcutaneously as an infusion.

Prochlorperazine is chemically incompatible with **OxyNorm** injection.

OxyNorm 10 mg/ml and 50 mg/ml injection have been shown to be compatible with hydrocortisone butyrate, hydrocortisone sodium succinate, levomepromazine, levomepromazine hydrochloride, metoprolol hydrochloride and levomepromazine hydrochloride. **OxyNorm** 50 mg/ml injection has also been shown to be compatible with glycopyrronium bromide and ketamine hydrochloride.

OxyNorm injection, undiluted or diluted to 1 mg/ml (10 mg/ml injection) or 5 mg/ml (50 mg/ml injection) with 0.9% w/v saline, 5% w/v dextrose or water for injections, is physically and chemically stable when in contact with representative brands of polypropylene or polycarbonate syringes, polyethylene or PVC tubing and PVC or EVA infusion bags, over a 24 hour period at room temperature, and does not need to be protected from light. The injection should be given immediately after opening the ampoule and any unused portion should be discarded.

Chemical and physical in-use stability has been demonstrated for 24 hours at room temperature.

Pregnancy

Do not use **OxyNorm** injection if you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant unless you have discussed this with your doctor and the benefits of treatment are considered to outweigh the potential harm to the baby. If you use **OxyNorm** injection during pregnancy your baby may become dependent and experience withdrawal symptoms after the birth which may need to be treated.

Breast-feeding

Do not use **OxyNorm** injection while you are breast-feeding as oxycodone passes into breast milk and will affect your baby.

Driving and using machines

This injection may cause a number of side effects such as drowsiness or dizziness which could affect your ability to drive or use machinery (see section 4 Possible side effects for a full list of side effects). These are usually most noticeable when you first start using the injection, or when changing to a higher dose.

Do not drive while taking this medicine until you know how it affects you.

It is an offence to drive if this medicine affects your ability to drive.

However you would not be committing an offence if:

- The medicine has been prescribed to treat a medical or dental problem and;

- You have taken it according to the instructions provided by the prescriber or in the information provided with the medicine and;

- It was not affecting your ability to drive safely.

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure whether it is safe for you to drive while taking this medicine.

OxyNorm injection contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per 1 ml, that is to say essentially sodium-free.

3. How to use **OxyNorm injection**

A doctor or nurse will usually prepare and administer the injection for you. The injection should be used immediately after opening. The dose and how often the injection is given may be adjusted according to the severity of your pain. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Adults (over 18 years of age)

The usual starting dose is dependent upon how the injection is administered. The usual starting doses are as follows:

- As a single injection into a vein, the usual dose is 1 to 10 mg given slowly over 1 to 2 minutes. This can be repeated every 4 hours.
- As an infusion into a vein, the usual starting dose is 2 mg/hour.
- As a single injection through a fine needle into the tissue under the skin, the usual starting dose is 5 mg repeated at 4-hourly intervals if needed.

If given by patient controlled analgesia (PCA), the dose is worked out according to your weight (0.03 mg per kg of body weight). Your doctor or nurse will set a suitable frequency.

Children and adolescents under 18 years of age should not be given the injection.

Patients with kidney or liver problems

Children and adolescents under 18 years of age should not be given the injection.

Please tell your doctor if you suffer from kidney or liver problems as they may prescribe a lower dose depending on your condition.

The dose recommended by the doctor should not be exceeded. Check with the doctor or pharmacist if you are unsure.

If you find that you are still in pain whilst being given this injection discuss this with your doctor.

If you use more **OxyNorm injection than you should, or if someone else uses your injection**

Call your doctor or hospital **immediately** if people who have been given an overdose may feel very

sleepy, sick or dizzy, or have hallucinations. They may also have breathing difficulties leading to unconsciousness or even death and may need emergency treatment or hospital. An overdose may result in a brain disorder (known as toxic leukoencephalopathy). When seeking medical attention make sure that you take this leaflet and any remaining injection with you to show to the doctor.

If you stop using **OxyNorm injection**

Do not suddenly stop using this medicine. If you want to stop using this medicine discuss this with your doctor first. They will tell you how to do this, usually by reducing the dose gradually so that any unpleasant withdrawal effects are kept to a minimum. Withdrawal symptoms such as restlessness, difficulty sleeping, irritability, agitation, anxiety, feeling your heartbeat (palpitations), increased blood pressure, feeling or being sick, diarrhoea, shaking, shivering or sweating may occur if you suddenly stop taking this medicine. If you have any further questions on the use of this injection, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, **OxyNorm** injection can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

All medicines can cause allergic reactions, although serious allergic reactions are rare. Tell your doctor immediately if you get any sudden wheeziness, difficulties in breathing, swelling of the eyelids, face or lips, rash or itching especially those covering your whole body. These may be signs of a serious allergic reaction.

The most serious side effect is a condition where you breathe more slowly or weakly than usual (respiratory depression) and can lead to severe sleepiness and loss of consciousness. This side effect may affect up to 1 in 100 people and is more likely to occur when taking certain other medicines (see section 2 Other medicines and **OxyNorm** injection). Tell your doctor immediately if this happens to you. You may wish to ask your friends, family or caregivers to monitor you for these signs and symptoms.

Drug withdrawal

When you stop using **OxyNorm** injection you may experience drug withdrawal symptoms,

which include restlessness, difficulty sleeping, irritability, agitation, anxiety, feeling your heartbeat (palpitations), increased blood pressure, feeling or being sick, diarrhoea, shaking, shivering or sweating.

Very common side effects (May affect more than 1 in 10 people)

Constipation (your doctor can prescribe a laxative to overcome this problem);

Feeling or being sick this should normally wear off after a few days, however your doctor can prescribe an anti-sickness medicine if it continues to be a problem);

Drowsiness (this is most likely when you start taking your medicine or when your dose is increased, but it should wear off after a few days);

Dizziness;

Headache;

Itchy skin.

Common side effects (May affect up to 1 in 10 people)

Dry mouth, loss of appetite, indigestion, abdominal pain or discomfort, diarrhoea;

Confusion, depression, a feeling of unusual weakness, shaking, lack of energy, tiredness, anxiety, nervousness, difficulty in sleeping, abnormal thoughts or dreams;

Difficulty in breathing, wheezing, shortness of breath, decreased cough reflex;

Rash;

Sweating.

Uncommon side effects (May affect up to 1 in 100 people)

Difficulty in swallowing, belching, hiccup, wind, a condition where the bowel does not work properly (ileus), inflammation of the stomach, changes in taste or unpleasant taste;

A feeling of dizziness or spinning (vertigo), hallucinations, mood changes, unpleasant or uncomfortable mood, a feeling of extreme happiness, disorientation, restlessness, agitation, generally feeling unwell, loss of memory, difficulty in speaking, reduced sensitivity to pain or touch, tingling or numbness in the hands or feet, seizures, fits or convulsions, blurred or impaired vision, unusual muscle stiffness or slackness, involuntary muscle contractions or spasms;

Difficulty or pain passing urine, impotence, decreased sexual drive, low levels of sex hormones in the blood (hypogonadism, seen in a blood test);

Fast, irregular heartbeat, palpitations, a feeling of lightheadedness, dizziness or fainting, flushing of the skin;

Dehydration, thirst, chills, swelling of the hands, ankles or feet;

Dry skin, severe flaking or peeling of the skin;

Redness of the face, reduction in size of the pupils in the eye, high temperature;

Colicky abdominal pain or discomfort;

A worsening of liver function tests (seen in a blood test).

Rare side effects (May affect up to 1 in 1,000 people)

Low blood pressure or feeling faint, especially on standing up;

A raised, itchy rash (hives).

Frequency not known (Frequency cannot be determined from the available data)

Dependence and addiction (see 'How do I know if I am addicted?' in section 2 of the leaflet);

Withdrawal symptoms (see 'Drug withdrawal' in section 2 of the leaflet);

A need to take increasingly higher doses of this medicine to obtain the same level of pain relief (tolerance);

An increased sensitivity to pain;

Aggression;

Tooth decay;

Absence of menstrual periods;

A problem affecting a valve in the intestines that may cause severe upper abdominal pain (sphincter of Oddi dysfunction);

A blockage in the flow of bile from the liver (cholestasis). This can cause itchy skin, yellow skin, very dark urine and very pale stools;

Sleep apnoea (breathing pauses during sleep);

Long term use of **OxyNorm** injection during pregnancy may cause life threatening withdrawal symptoms in the newborn. Symptoms to look for in the baby include irritability, hyperactivity and abnormal sleep pattern, high pitched cry, shaking, being sick, diarrhoea and not putting on weight.

Difficulty or pain passing urine, impotence, decreased sexual drive, low levels of sex hormones in the blood (hypogonadism, seen in a blood test);

Fast, irregular heartbeat, palpitations, a feeling of lightheadedness, dizziness or fainting, flushing of the skin;

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Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the 'Yellow Card' Scheme at: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store **OxyNorm injection**

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children. Store this medicine in a locked safe and secure storage space, where other people cannot access it. It can cause serious harm and be fatal to people when it has not been prescribed for them. Do not use **OxyNorm** injection after the expiry date which is stated on the ampoule label and carton after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

There are no special precautions for storage prior to use however once the ampoule is opened the injection should be used immediately. Any unused portion should be discarded immediately after use. Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What **OxyNorm injection contains**

The active ingredient is oxycodone hydrochloride. The other ingredients are citric acid monohydrate, sodium citrate, sodium chloride, dilute hydrochloric acid, sodium hydroxide and water for injections.

What **OxyNorm injection looks like and the contents of the pack**

OxyNorm injection is a clear, colourless solution supplied in clear glass ampoules. The 10 mg/ml strength is available as either 1 ml or 2 ml of solution (containing 10 mg or 20 mg of oxycodone hydrochloride respectively). The 50 mg/ml strength is available as 1 ml of solution (containing 50 mg of oxycodone hydrochloride).

Marketing Authorisation Holder

Napp Pharmaceuticals Limited, Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 0AB, UK.

Manufacturer

Bard Pharmaceuticals Limited, Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 0GW, UK.

This leaflet is also available in large print, Braille or as an audio CD. To request a copy, please call the RNIB Medicine Information Line (free of charge) on:

0800 198 5000

You will need to give details of the product name and reference number. These are as follows:

Product name: **OxyNorm** solution for injection or infusion

Reference number: 16950/0128

This leaflet was last revised in February 2025

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