

ANALGESIA: EQUIANALGESIC OPIOID DOSING
(Equivalent to Morphine 5 mg IM/SC or IV intermittent)

Drug	IV direct (mg)	IV Intermittent over 15 min or IM/SC (mg)	ORAL (mg)	Duration of Action* (hrs)
Phenanthrene Opioids				
Morphine	1	5	10 to15	3 to 4
Codeine	-	60	100	3 to 4
Hydromorphone	0.2	1	2	3 to 4
Oxycodone	-	-	7.5-10	3 to 4
Phenylpiperidine Opioids				
Meperidine**	10	37.5	150	3
Fentanyl	0.01 (10 mcg)	0.05 (50 mcg)	-	1 to 3
Fentanyl Trans-dermal***	-	25mcg/hr = 30 to 66 mg IV/SC morphine/24hrs	25mcg/hr = 60 to 134 mg PO morphine/24hr	3 days
Diphenylheptane Opioids				
Methadone	-	-	depends on morphine dose (see below)	> 6

*Duration of action is for IV intermittent, IM/SC, and PO routes; IV direct administration has shorter duration of action

**Restricted to treatment of drug- or blood-induced rigors and post-operative shivering

***Note that this Table is uni-directional for Morphine to Fentanyl patch conversion only. Conversion does NOT apply when switching from Fentanyl patch to morphine (use extreme caution).

- 2 x Tylenol #3 is approximately equivalent to morphine 10 mg PO
- 2 x 292 is approximately equivalent to morphine 10 mg PO

- In round the clock administration of narcotics the IV/IM/SC routes are essentially equianalgesic
- The oral, rectal, and sublingual routes are equianalgesic, if available
- Dosing frequency is usually based on the duration of action of the analgesic used; however, certain individuals may obtain control with longer dosing intervals, and some patients may need more frequent administration.

Daily chronic oral morphine equivalent****	Conversion ratio morphine:methadone
< 100 mg	3:1
100-300mg	5:1
300-600mg	10:1
600-800mg	12:1
800-1000mg	15:1
> 1000 mg	20:1

****Caveat: Equivalence of methadone to morphine may vary considerably from one individual to another. Note that this Table is uni-directional ie. morphine to methadone conversion only.