



## MORPHINE SULPHATE (C)

(Revised: December 2020)

**TYPE:** Narcotic analgesic [S8]

**PRESENTATION:** 10mg in 1ml – glass ampoule

**ACTION:**

1. Decreases pain perception and anxiety
2. Vasodilatation

Onset: **IV** = 2 – 5 minutes; **IM** = 5+ minutes  
Duration: **IV** = 1 – 2 hours; **IM** = 2 – 3 hours

**USE:** **ICP** 1. To relieve moderate to severe pain

**AP**

**ADVERSE EFFECTS:**

1. Nausea and vomiting
2. Altered level of consciousness
3. Respiratory depression
4. Hypotension
5. Bradycardia
6. Dependence

**CONTRA-INDICATIONS:**

1. Respiratory depression
2. BP < 70mmHg systolic
3. Acute asthma attacks

**PRECAUTIONS:**

1. Depressed level of consciousness (GCS ≤ 13)
2. Known hypersensitivity
3. Elderly patients (may be sensitive)
4. Patients with CAL
5. Hypovolaemic patients (hypovolaemia should be corrected before morphine administration)
6. Patients with systolic BP 70 – 90mmHg (see below)
7. Children under 1 year
8. Pain management in labour
9. Previous opiates

continues over



## MORPHINE SULPHATE (C) cont.

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### DOSES:

#### ADULT and PAEDIATRIC:

<b>ICP</b>	Up to 0.05mg/kg IV, over 2 minutes. May be repeated at 5 minutes intervals, until pain is managed. <b>Ambulance Paramedics:</b> up to a maximum of 20mg Use with caution under 1 year of age.	<b>AP</b>
<b>ICP</b>	Morphine administration can be used alternately with ketamine	
<b>Patient with pain – systolic BP of 70 – 90mmHg:</b>		
<b>ADULT:</b>		
	IV use only	
	Hypovolaemic patients must be receiving fluid	
	<i>Up to half</i> of a calculated 0.05mg/kg dose, given slowly	
<b>ICP</b>	May be repeated as required, with great care, and with an appropriate time interval between doses, titrated to response	<b>AP</b>
	No further doses to be given if systolic BP drops 10mmHg or more with the half dose, even if it remains above 70mmHg systolic (e.g. initial BP 85mmHg – following morphine dose, BP is now 75mmHg)	

#### Intramuscular administration:

<b>ADULT and PAEDIATRIC:</b>		
	Pain relief only	
	Not for chest pain if cardiac ischaemia suspected	
	No IV available	
<b>ICP</b>	No hypotension	<b>AP</b>
	Patient contact estimated >20 minutes.	
	0.1mg/kg. Repeat once, after 30 – 45 minutes, if required	
	<b>(Ambulance Paramedics: do not exceed total of 20mg)</b>	