

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** 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:

ICP	Up to 0.05mg/kg IV, over 2 minutes. May be repeated at 5 minute intervals, until pain is managed.	AP
	Ambulance Paramedics: up to a maximum of 20mg Use with caution under 1 year of age.	
ICP	Morphine administration can be used alternately with ketamine	

Patient with pain – systolic BP of 70 – 90mmHg:

ADULT:

ICP	IV use only Hypovolaemic patients must be receiving fluid <i>Up to half</i> of a calculated 0.05mg/kg dose, given slowly	AP
	May be repeated as required, with great care, and with an appropriate time interval between doses, titrated to response 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:

ADULT and PAEDIATRIC:

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