

Oxycodone (OxyContin[®]) and Medicines That Contain Oxycodone (Percocet[®], Percodan[®], Tylox[®])

General Information

Oxycodone is a medicine used to treat moderate to severe pain. You may receive:

- oxycodone:
 - OxyContin[®] is a long-lasting form of oxycodone that is taken two to three times a day. This medicine is known as extended release.
 - Roxicodone[®] or OxyFast[®] are fast-acting forms of oxycodone that start working right away. This medicine is known as immediate release.
- oxycodone and acetaminophen:
 - Percocet[®] and Tylox[®] are medicines that contain oxycodone and acetaminophen (Tylenol[®]). Each tablet or capsule contains either 325 or 500 milligrams of acetaminophen.
- oxycodone and aspirin:
 - Percodan[®] is a medicine that contains oxycodone and aspirin. Each tablet contains 325 mg of aspirin.

If you are taking any medicines that contain acetaminophen, do not take more than 4,000 mg each day. Taking more than this can cause severe side effects such as liver damage. If you have liver problems, do not take acetaminophen.

How Is It Given?

- tablet, capsule (Tylox[®]) or liquid by mouth

What Side Effects May Occur?

This is a partial list of the side effects you may have with this medicine. You may have some, all or none of those listed, or you may have other side effects not listed. Most side effects last only a short time.

Common:

- constipation
- nausea (feel like throwing up) or vomiting (throwing up)
- headache
- dry mouth
- drowsiness
- fatigue
- lightheadedness
- itching
- rash

Less common:

- slowed breathing
- confusion
- lowered blood pressure (known as hypotension)
- ringing in the ears (known as tinnitus)

Special Notes

- Do not crush or chew long-acting OxyContin. This will destroy the time-release coating. As a result, you could get too much medicine at once.
- Do not drive or perform any other activities that require alertness until you know how the medicine will affect you. If you are having excessive sleepiness, talk with your doctor.
- Be careful when you stand up or climb stairs, because the medicine may cause dizziness.
- Many side effects like fatigue will improve as your body adjusts to taking oxycodone.