

What is Oxycodone?

Oxycodone is a pain-killing medication used to treat moderate to severe pain.

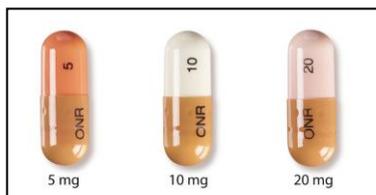
Oxycodone is available as a number of different preparations:

A modified release or 'long acting' tablet – This is taken as a regular twice a day dose 12 hours apart to control pain. The tablets slowly release the medicine over a 12 hour period.



This is given to you as either **Oxycontin** tablets or **Longtec** Tablets

An immediate release – or 'short acting' capsule or liquid - This is usually taken 'as required' for breakthrough pain



This is given to you as either **Oxynorm** capsules or liquid or **Shortec** Capsules or liquid

Can I take the 'long acting' and 'short acting' oxycodone preparations together?

Yes. The long acting Oxycodone aims to prevent your pain and is gradually released into your system; the short acting Oxycodone is taken when needed, when the pain is bad, even if you are already on a long acting preparation. Long-acting medicine makes sure the medication is released slowly and gradually into your body over a certain time period and lasts for about 12 hours.

Why does my Oxycodone medicine now have a different name?

You may have noticed that your Oxycodone *modified release tablets* have changed from a brand known as **Oxycontin** to a brand called **Longtec**

You may have noticed that your Oxycodone *immediate release capsules or liquid* have changed from a brand called **Oxynorm** to a brand called **Shortec**

You should continue to take your medicines in the same way as you did previously. It is only the name that has changed; the medicine will look the same and work in exactly the same way.

What are the common side-effects of Oxycodone?

Constipation

Constipation (when passing stools becomes difficult or painful, or you pass stools less often) affects nearly everyone who takes oxycodone. You should usually be given laxatives to relieve constipation. Laxatives work by making the stools looser or stimulating the bowels to work. They can take time to work so it is important to continue taking them as directed

Nausea

You may experience nausea (feeling sick) when starting oxycodone or when the dose is increased, but it is likely to last only a short time. However, if it persists, you may be given anti-sickness medication to relieve your symptoms.

Drowsiness

You may experience mild drowsiness or problems with concentration when starting oxycodone or when the dose is increased, but it is likely to last only a short time. This may affect your ability to carry out manual tasks such as driving. If you have more severe or long-lasting problems with drowsiness or loss of concentration your healthcare professional may change the medicine you are taking, reduce the dose of your medicine.

How much Oxycodone should I take?

Oxycodone is available in a number of different doses. Your doctor or nurse will advise you on what is the best dose for you.

My dose of my long acting Oxycodone is:

.....mg in the morning and

.....mg in the evening

My dose of my short acting Oxycodone is:

.....mg when required for breakthrough pain

Name

Date

What should I do if I am unsure about which medication to take?

Check with your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you are unclear or unsure which medicine to take or how much medicine to take.

Oxycodone tablets, capsules and liquid
