



Rx Pain Medications

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Dangerous Drug Interactions

Please consult your health care provider before using prescription pain medications with other substances.

Did you know...

According to the CDC, about one-half of deaths from prescription pain medications involve the use of at least one other drug.¹



Mixing opioids with other substances can cause dangerous side effects, including breathing trouble, coma, and even permanent brain damage or death.^{2,3}

If you are taking prescription pain medications, do NOT take the following without first talking to your health care provider:

- **Alcohol** (including beer, wine, and liquor)
- **Antihistamines** (including allergy medications such as Benadryl®)
- **Cough medicine/cough syrup**
- **Barbiturates and benzodiazepines** (often used as sleeping pills and sedatives, such as Ambien®, Xanax®, and Valium®)
- **General anesthetics** (often used for surgery)



To find more information on safer, more effective pain management in the CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/prescribing/guideline.html>.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Call 9-1-1 or the National Poison Help number at 1-800-222-1222.



¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2016). Drugs most frequently involved in drug overdose deaths: United States, 2010–2014. *National Vital Statistics Report* 65(10).

² National Institute on Drug Abuse. (2016). Misuse of prescription drugs: Is it safe to use opioid drugs with other medications? Retrieved from <http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/research-reports/prescription-drugs/opioids/it-safe-to-use-opioid-drugs-other-medications>

³ National Institute on Drug Abuse. (2017). Drug facts: Prescription pain medications (Opioids). *NIDA for Teens*. Retrieved from <https://teens.drugabuse.gov/drug-facts/prescription-pain-medications-opioids>



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Common Names for Prescription Opioid Pain Medications

Different names are often used for the same drugs, which can make it hard to tell exactly what type of pain medication is being taken. This can result in patients misidentifying the types of medications they are on, failing to report certain medications to their health care provider, or duplicating therapy by unknowingly taking the name brand and generic versions of one medication.

The table below outlines some common brand and slang names for prescription opioid pain medications. Be sure to tell your health care provider about any and all medications you are taking, in order to avoid potentially dangerous combinations.

Medication Generic Name	Brand Names	Street/Slang Names
Oxycodone	OxyContin®, Percodan®, Percocet®, and others	O.C., Oxycet, Oxycotton, Oxy, Hillbilly Heroin, Percs
Hydrocodone or dihydrocodeinone (typically combined with acetaminophen)	Vicodin®, Lortab®, Lorcet®, and others	Vike, Watson-387
Morphine	Kadian®, Avinza®, MS Contin®, Duramorph®, Roxanol®	M, Miss Emma, Monkey, White Stuff
Codeine	Various brand names; often combined with acetaminophen and aspirin	Captain Cody, Cody, Lean, Schoolboy, Sizzurp, Purple Drank With glutethimide: Doors & Fours, Loads, Pancakes and Syrup
Fentanyl	Duragesic®, Actiq®, Sublimaze®	Apache, China Girl, China White, Dance Fever, Friend, Goodfella, Jackpot, Murder 8, Tango and Cash, TNT
Hydromorphone	Dilaudid®	D, Dillies, Footballs, Juice, Smack
Meperidine	Demerol®	Demmies
Oxymorphone	Opana®	Biscuits, Blue Heaven, Blues, Mrs. O, O Bomb, Octagons, Stop Signs

Sources Consulted

- National Institute on Drug Abuse. Drug facts: Prescription pain medications (Opioids). *NIDA for Teens*. Retrieved from <http://teens.drugabuse.gov/drug-facts/prescription-pain-medications-opioids>
- National Institute on Drug Abuse. Commonly abused drugs charts (Prescription opioids). *Drugs of Abuse*. Retrieved from <https://www.drugabuse.gov/drugs-abuse/commonly-abused-drugs-charts>

NEED HELP?

Call **1-800-662-HELP (4357)** for 24-hour free and confidential treatment referral and information about mental and/or substance use disorders, prevention, and recovery in English and Spanish, or visit www.samhsa.gov/find-help.

