



Drug Fact Sheet

Oxycodone

WHAT IS OXYCODONE?

Oxycodone is a semi-synthetic narcotic analgesic and historically has been a popular drug of misuse among the narcotic using population.

WHAT IS ITS ORIGIN?

Oxycodone is synthesized from thebaine, a constituent of the poppy plant.

What are common street names?

Common street names include:

- Hillbilly Heroin, Kicker, OC, Ox, Roxy, Perc, and Oxy

What does it look like?

Oxycodone is marketed alone as OxyContin® in 10, 20, 40 and 80 mg extended-release tablets and other immediate-release capsules like 5 mg OxyIR®. It is also marketed in combination products with aspirin such as Percodan® or acetaminophen such as Roxicet®.

How is it used?

Oxycodone is abused orally or intravenously. The tablets are crushed and snuffed or dissolved in water and injected. Others heat a tablet that has been placed on a piece of foil and then inhale the vapors.

What is its effect on the mind?

Euphoria and feelings of relaxation are the most common effects of oxycodone on the brain, which explains its high potential for misuse.

What is its effect on the body?

Physiological effects of oxycodone include:

- Pain relief, sedation, respiratory depression, constipation, papillary constriction, and cough suppression. Extended or chronic use of oxycodone containing acetaminophen may cause severe liver damage

What are its overdose effects?

Overdose effects include:

- Extreme drowsiness, muscle weakness, confusion, cold and clammy skin, pinpoint pupils, shallow breathing, slow heart rate, fainting, coma, and possible death

Which drugs cause similar effects?

Drugs that cause similar effects to oxycodone include:

- Opium, codeine, heroin, methadone, hydrocodone, fentanyl, and morphine

What is its legal status in the United States?

Oxycodone products are Schedule II narcotics under the Controlled Substances Act.

Oxycodone pills

