

- Paracetamol 1 gram** Paracetamol 1g suppositories | 10 suppository [P] £60.00 DT = £59.50
- ▶ **Alvedon** (Intrapharm Laboratories Ltd)
- Paracetamol 60 mg** Alvedon 60mg suppositories | 10 suppository [P] £11.95 DT = £11.95
- Paracetamol 125 mg** Alvedon 125mg suppositories | 10 suppository [P] £13.80 DT = £13.80
- Paracetamol 250 mg** Alvedon 250mg suppositories | 10 suppository [P] £27.60 DT = £27.60

Oral suspension

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 30

- ▶ **Paracetamol (Non-proprietary)**
- Paracetamol 24 mg per 1 ml** Paracetamol 120mg/5ml oral suspension paediatric | 100 ml [P] £1.23-£1.50 | 500 ml [P] £5.75-£6.13 DT = £6.13
- Paracetamol 120mg/5ml oral suspension paediatric sugar free sugar-free | 100 ml [P] £1.19 DT = £1.19 sugar-free | 200 ml [P] £2.38 sugar-free | 500 ml [P] £5.95 sugar-free | 1000 ml [P] £11.90
- Paracetamol 50 mg per 1 ml** Paracetamol 250mg/5ml oral suspension | 100 ml [P] £1.40-£1.75 DT = £1.75 | 500 ml [P] £7.00-£8.75
- Paracetamol 250mg/5ml oral suspension sugar free sugar-free | 100 ml [P] £1.17-£1.19 sugar-free | 200 ml [P] £2.33 DT = £2.34 sugar-free | 500 ml [P] £5.83-£5.85 sugar-free | 1000 ml [P] £11.65
- Paracetamol 100 mg per 1 ml** Paracetamol 500mg/5ml oral suspension sugar free sugar-free | 150 ml [PoM] £24.00 DT = £24.00
- ▶ **Calpol** (McNeil Products Ltd)
- Paracetamol 24 mg per 1 ml** Calpol Infant 120mg/5ml oral suspension | 200 ml [P] £3.78
- Calpol Infant 120mg/5ml oral suspension sugar free sugar-free | 200 ml [P] £3.78
- Paracetamol 50 mg per 1 ml** Calpol Six Plus 250mg/5ml oral suspension | 200 ml [P] £4.40
- Calpol Six Plus 250mg/5ml oral suspension sugar free sugar-free | 100 ml [P] £2.64 sugar-free | 200 ml [P] £4.40 DT = £2.34

Effervescent tablet

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 29, 30

- ▶ **Paracetamol (Non-proprietary)**
- Paracetamol 500 mg** Paracetamol 500mg soluble tablets | 100 tablet [PoM] [S] DT = £6.79
- Paracetamol 500mg effervescent tablets | 24 tablet [PoM] £1.72 | 60 tablet [PoM] £4.30 | 100 tablet [PoM] £1.59-£7.17 DT = £7.17
- ▶ **Altridexamol** (TriOn Pharma Ltd)
- Paracetamol 1 gram** Altridexamol 1000mg effervescent tablets sugar-free | 50 tablet [PoM] £6.59

Solution for infusion

- ▶ **Paracetamol (Non-proprietary)**
- Paracetamol 10 mg per 1 ml** Paracetamol 500mg/50ml solution for infusion bottles | 10 bottle [PoM] £11.00 (Hospital only)
- Paracetamol 500mg/50ml solution for infusion vials | 10 vial [PoM] £14.40
- Paracetamol 1g/100ml solution for infusion bottles | 10 bottle [PoM] [S]
- Paracetamol 1g/100ml solution for infusion vials | 10 vial [PoM] £12.00-£15.60 DT = £12.00 | 20 vial [PoM] £24.00
- Paracetamol 100mg/10ml solution for infusion ampoules | 20 ampoule [PoM] £12.00
- ▶ **Perfalgan** (Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals Ltd)
- Paracetamol 10 mg per 1 ml** Perfalgan 1g/100ml solution for infusion vials | 12 vial [PoM] £14.96
- Perfalgan 500mg/50ml solution for infusion vials | 12 vial [PoM] £13.60

Oral solution

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 30

- ▶ **Paracetamol (Non-proprietary)**
- Paracetamol 24 mg per 1 ml** Paracetamol 120mg/5ml oral solution paediatric sugar free sugar-free | 2000 ml [P] £23.80 DT = £23.80
- Paracetamol 100 mg per 1 ml** Paracetamol 500mg/5ml oral solution sugar free sugar-free | 150 ml [PoM] £24.00 sugar-free | 200 ml [PoM] £18.00 DT = £18.00

Powder

- ▶ **Paracetamol (Non-proprietary)**
- Paracetamol 650 mg** Paracetamol 650mg oral powder sachets | 10 sachet [GSL] [S] | 5 sachet [GSL] [S]

Capsule

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- ▶ **Paracetamol (Non-proprietary)**
- Paracetamol 500 mg** Paracetamol 500mg capsules | 100 capsule [PoM] £3.06 DT = £3.06

Orodispersible tablet

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 30

- ▶ **Calpol Fastmelts** (McNeil Products Ltd)
- Paracetamol 250 mg** Calpol Six Plus Fastmelts 250mg tablets sugar-free | 24 tablet [P] £4.12 DT = £4.12

Combinations available: *Co-codamol*, p. 282 · *Dihydrocodeine with paracetamol*, p. 286

ANALGESICS > OPIOIDS**Opioids**

- **CONTRA-INDICATIONS** Acute respiratory depression · comatose patients · head injury (opioid analgesics interfere with pupillary responses vital for neurological assessment) · raised intracranial pressure (opioid analgesics interfere with pupillary responses vital for neurological assessment) · risk of paralytic ileus
- **CAUTIONS** Adrenocortical insufficiency (reduced dose is recommended) · asthma (avoid during an acute attack) · convulsive disorders · diseases of the biliary tract · hypotension · hypothyroidism (reduced dose is recommended) · impaired respiratory function (avoid in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) · inflammatory bowel disorders · myasthenia gravis · obstructive bowel disorders · shock
- **CAUTIONS, FURTHER INFORMATION**
 - ▶ **Dependence** Repeated use of opioid analgesics is associated with the development of psychological and physical dependence; although this is rarely a problem with therapeutic use, caution is advised if prescribing for patients with a history of drug dependence.
 - ▶ **Palliative care** In the control of pain in terminal illness, the cautions listed should not necessarily be a deterrent to the use of opioid analgesics.
- **SIDE-EFFECTS**
 - ▶ **Common or very common** Arrhythmias · confusion · constipation · dizziness · drowsiness · dry mouth · euphoric mood · flushing · hallucination · headache · hyperhidrosis · hypotension (with high doses) · miosis · nausea (more common on initiation) · palpitations · respiratory depression (with high doses) · skin reactions · urinary retention · vertigo · visual impairment · vomiting (more common on initiation)
 - ▶ **Uncommon** Drug dependence · dysphoria · withdrawal syndrome
- **SIDE-EFFECTS, FURTHER INFORMATION**
 - Respiratory depression** Respiratory depression is a major concern with opioid analgesics and it may be treated by artificial ventilation or be reversed by naloxone. Neonates (particularly if pre-term) may be more susceptible.
 - Dependence and withdrawal** Psychological dependence rarely occurs when opioids are used therapeutically (e.g. for pain relief), but tolerance can develop during long-term treatment.
 - Overdose** Opioids (narcotic analgesics) cause coma, respiratory depression, and pinpoint pupils. For details on the management of poisoning, see Opioids, under Emergency treatment of poisoning p. 859 and consider the specific antidote, naloxone hydrochloride.
- **PREGNANCY** Respiratory depression and withdrawal symptoms can occur in the neonate if opioid analgesics are used during delivery; also gastric stasis and inhalation pneumonia has been reported in the mother if opioid analgesics are used during labour.
- **TREATMENT CESSATION** Avoid abrupt withdrawal after long-term treatment; they should be withdrawn gradually to avoid abstinence symptoms.
- **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION** The *Faculty of Pain Medicine* has produced resources for healthcare