

**Paracetamol 50 mg per 1 ml** Paracetamol 250mg/5ml oral suspension | 100 ml **P** | £2.00–£2.40 DT = £2.06 | 500 ml **P** | £10.00–£12.00

Paracetamol 250mg/5ml oral suspension sugar-free | 100 ml **P** | £1.35–£1.89 sugar-free | 200 ml **P** | £2.96 DT = £2.69 sugar-free | 500 ml **P** | £6.67–£6.73 sugar-free | 1000 ml **P** | £13.35

**Paracetamol 100 mg per 1 ml** Paracetamol 500mg/5ml oral suspension 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 | 200 ml **P** | £3.78

**Paracetamol 50 mg per 1 ml** Calpol Six Plus 250mg/5ml oral suspension 5ml sachets sugar-free | 12 sachet **GSL** | £2.93 DT = £2.93  
Calpol Six Plus 250mg/5ml oral suspension | 200 ml **P** | £4.40  
Calpol Six Plus 250mg/5ml oral suspension sugar-free | 100 ml **P** | £2.64 sugar-free | 200 ml **P** | £4.40 DT = £2.69

**Effervescent tablet**

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 13, 29 (500 mg tablets in adults), 30

▶ **Paracetamol (Non-proprietary)**

**Paracetamol 500 mg** Paracetamol 500mg soluble tablets | 60 tablet **P** | £26.56 | 100 tablet **PoM** | DT = £6.25  
Paracetamol 500mg effervescent tablets | 24 tablet **PoM** | £1.64–£2.18 | 60 tablet **PoM** | £4.10 | 100 tablet **PoM** | £6.83 DT = £6.83

▶ **Altridexamol** (TriOn Pharma Ltd)

**Paracetamol 1 gram** Altridexamol 1000mg effervescent tablets sugar-free | 50 tablet **PoM** | £6.59 DT = £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** | £15.10

Paracetamol 1g/100ml solution for infusion bottles | 10 bottle **PoM** | **S**

Paracetamol 1g/100ml solution for infusion vials | 10 vial **PoM** | £12.00 DT = £12.00 (Hospital only) | 10 vial **PoM** | £16.40 DT = £12.00 | 20 vial **PoM** | £24.00 (Hospital only)

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 | 2000 ml **P** | £23.80 DT = £23.80

**Paracetamol 100 mg per 1 ml** Paracetamol 500mg/5ml oral solution sugar-free | 150 ml **PoM** | £24.00 sugar-free | 200 ml **PoM** | £18.00 DT = £18.00

**Powder**

▶ **Paracetamol (Non-proprietary)**

**Paracetamol 650 mg** 650mg oral powder sachets | 5 sachet **GSL** | **S** | 10 sachet **GSL** | **S**

**Capsule**

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 29, 30

▶ **Paracetamol (Non-proprietary)**

**Paracetamol 500 mg** Paracetamol 500mg capsules | 100 capsule **PoM** | £3.85 DT = £3.16

**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. 292 • *Dihydrocodeine with paracetamol*, p. 296 • *Tramadol with paracetamol*, p. 307

**ANALGESICS > OPIOIDS**

**Opioids**



**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION**

**MHRA/CHM ADVICE: BENZODIAZEPINES AND OPIOIDS: REMINDER OF RISK OF POTENTIALLY FATAL RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION (MARCH 2020)**

The MHRA reminds healthcare professionals that opioids co-prescribed with benzodiazepines and benzodiazepine-like drugs can produce additive CNS depressant effects, thereby increasing the risk of sedation, respiratory depression, coma, and death. Healthcare professionals are advised to only co-prescribe if there is no alternative and, if necessary, the lowest possible doses should be given for the shortest duration. Patients should be closely monitored for signs of respiratory depression at initiation of treatment and when there is any change in prescribing, such as dose adjustments or new interactions. If methadone is co-prescribed with a benzodiazepine or benzodiazepine-like drug, the respiratory depressant effect of methadone may be delayed; patients should be monitored for at least 2 weeks after initiation or changes in prescribing. Patients should be informed of the signs and symptoms of respiratory depression and sedation, and advised to seek urgent medical attention should these occur.

- **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.