

**NURSING CONSIDERATIONS****Assess:**

- **Pain:** location, intensity, type, other characteristics before and after need for pain medication, physical dependence, give 25%-50% until pain reduction of 50% on pain rating scale, repeat dose may be given at time of peak if previous dose does not control pain and respiratory depression has not occurred
- I&O ratio for decreasing output; may indicate urinary retention
- **Bowel status:** constipation; may need stimulative laxative if use  $\geq 3$  days; increased fluids, fiber for prevention
- **CNS changes:** dizziness, drowsiness, hallucinations, euphoria, LOC, pupil reaction
- **Allergic reactions:** rash, urticaria

**Black Box Warning: Respiratory dysfunction:** respiratory depression, character, rate, rhythm; notify prescriber if respirations are  $< 10$ /min; dose may need to be decreased by 25%-50%; monitor B/P, pulse also

**Black Box Warning: Accidental exposure:** dispose of properly, away from children/pets

**Black Box Warning: Overdose/poisoning:** avoid alcohol ingestion, do not crush, chew, snort, or inject tabs, high abuse potential

**Black Box Warning: Opioid-naïve patients:** ext rel tabs are not to be used immediately postop (12-24 hr after surgery) in these patients

- **Pregnancy/breastfeeding:** use only if benefits outweigh fetal risk; neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome may occur with extended use; avoid breastfeeding
  - **Beers:** avoid use in older adults; ataxia, impaired psychomotor function may occur
- Evaluate:**
- Therapeutic response: decrease in pain

**Teach patient/family:**

- To report any symptoms of CNS changes, allergic reactions
- That physical dependency may result from extended use
- That withdrawal symptoms may occur: nausea, vomiting, cramps, fever, faintness, anorexia
- Not to drive or operate machinery if drowsiness occurs
- **Not to use other CNS depressants, alcohol**
- To make position changes slowly to prevent orthostatic hypotension
- **To notify health care professional if pregnancy is planned or suspected; avoid breastfeeding**
- To notify prescriber of all OTC, Rx, herbs, supplements being taken; not to take new products unless approved by prescriber

**TREATMENT OF OVERDOSE:**

Naloxone (Narcan) 0.2-0.8 mg IV (caution with patients physically dependent on opioids), O<sub>2</sub>, IV fluids, vasopressors

**⚠ HIGH ALERT****oxytocin (Rx)**

(ox-i-toe'sin)

Pitocin, Syntocinon 

*Func. class.:* Hormone

*Cbem. class.:* Oxytocic, uterine-active agent

**ACTION:** Acts directly on myofibrils, thereby producing uterine contraction; stimulates milk ejection by the breast; vasoactive antidiuretic effect

**USES:** Stimulation, induction of labor; missed or incomplete abortion; postpartum bleeding

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Hypersensitivity, serum toxemia, cephalopelvic disproportion, fetal distress, hypertonic uterus, prolapsed umbilical cord, active genital herpes