

HEALTHEAST MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION
MEDICAL OPERATIONS MANUAL

MORPHINE SULFATE

Drug Classification: Narcotic Analgesic

BACKGROUND

Pharmacodynamics

Morphine acts on opiate receptors in the brain, providing both analgesia and sedation.

Indications

1. Generalized pain and aching.
2. Abdominal and soft tissue pain.
3. Headache with history of chronic headaches.
4. Narcotic withdrawal.

Contraindications

1. Allergy or known hypersensitivity to Morphine.

Cautions

1. May cause respiratory depression, hypotension and vomiting.
2. Use with caution in asthma, COPD and shock.
3. May mask the signs and symptoms of a head injury. Use with caution in head injured patients.
4. Be prepared to assist ventilations and to administer the narcotic antagonist **naloxone (Narcan)**.
5. Reduce dosage by 50% in patients over the age of 65.

DOSAGE and ADMINISTRATION

ADULT	PEDIATRICS (less than 60 kg)
<p><u>For abdominal pain or non-traumatic musculoskeletal pain</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pain rated at 4-6: Administer 0.05 mg/kg IV/IO/IM in 5 mg increments.2. Pain rated at 7 – 10: Administer 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO/IM in 5 mg increments. Maximum initial dose 10 mg.3. May repeat every 10 – 15 minutes as needed, to a maximum total dose of 20 mg.¹	<p><u>For abdominal pain or non-traumatic musculoskeletal pain</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pain rated at 4-6: Administer 0.05 mg/kg IV/IO/IM.2. Pain rated at 7 – 10: Administer 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO/IM. Maximum initial dose 10 mg.3. May repeat every 10 – 15 minutes as needed, to a maximum total dose of 20 mg.¹

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ADVERSE REACTIONS/SIDE EFFECTS

- Rash, urticaria, edema, respiratory depression, dizziness, flushing, nausea and vomiting, diaphoresis

NOTES

¹Contact Medical Control for total doses exceeding 20 mg.

REFERENCE GUIDELINE:

1C Pain and Nausea Management