

Opioids Used for Post-op Pain Control

Medication	Initial dose for opioid naïve adults	Onset of analgesia	Duration of analgesic effect (variable)	Potency Relative to Morphine
Parenteral				
Fentanyl	-20-50 mcg IV for moderate/severe pain -repeat every 2-5 min	< 1 minute	30-60 minutes	100 x
Morphine	-1-3 mg IV -repeat every 5-10 min until pain relief then 1-3 mg IV every 3-4 h prn	5-10 minutes	3-5 hours	
Hydromorphone	Initial dose of 1.5 mg IV followed by subsequent doses of 0.75 mg IV no more than 1x per hour	2-5 minutes	1-3 hours	4-5 x
Oral				
Oxycodone	5-10 mg PO every 3-4 hours as needed	10-15 minutes	3-6 hours	1.5 x
Hydromorphone	2-4 mg PO every 3-4 hours as needed	15-30 minutes	3-4 hours	4-5 x
Hydrocodone	5-10 mg PO every 4-6 hours as needed	10-30 minutes	4-6 hours	2/3 x
Tramadol	50-100 mg PO every 4-6 hours as needed	Within 1 hour	4-6 hours	