

**Opioids for Chronic Pain Management:
Dose Availability and Alberta Health & Wellness Funding
Information for Healthcare Providers**

	Opioid	Short	Long	Brand Name	Dose Availability	AHW
Weak Opioids	Codeine	✓		Codeine	IR Tab: 15, 30 mg	RB
				Tylenol No. 1 [®]	Tab: codeine 8 mg / acetaminophen 300 mg / caffeine 15 mg	NAB
				Tylenol No. 2 [®]	Tab: codeine 15 mg / acetaminophen 300 mg / caffeine 15 mg	RB
				Tylenol No. 3 [®]	Tab: codeine 30 mg / acetaminophen 300 mg / caffeine 15 mg	RB
				Emtec [®]	Tab: codeine 30 mg / acetaminophen 300 mg (no caffeine)	RB
				Tylenol No. 4 [®]	Tab: codeine 60 mg / acetaminophen 300 mg (no caffeine)	RB
	Tramadol	✓		Codeine Contin [®]	CR Tab: 50, 100 ^s , 150 ^s , 200 ^s mg	NAB
				Tramacet [®]	Tab: tramadol 37.5 mg / acetaminophen 325 mg	NAB
				Ultram [®]	IR Tab: 50 ^s mg	NAB
				Durela [®]	ER Cap (17-25% immediate release): 100, 200, 300 mg	NAB
Ralivia [®]				ER Tab: 100, 200, 300 mg	NAB	
Tridural [®]				ER Tab (25% immediate release): 100, 200, 300 mg	NAB	
Buprenorphine Patch*	✓		BuTrans [®]	Patch: 5, 10, 15, 20 mcg/hour	NAB	
Strong Opioids	Morphine	✓		MS-IR [®]	IR Tab: 5 ^s , 10 ^s , 20 ^s , 30 ^s mg	RB
				Statex [®]	IR Tab: 5 ^s , 10 ^s , 25 ^s , 50 ^s mg	RB
				MS Contin [®]	SR Tab: 15, 30, 60, 100, 200 ^s mg	RB
				M-Eslon [®]	ER Cap: 10, 15, 30, 60, 100, 200 mg	RB
				Kadian [®]	SR Cap: 10, 20, 50, 100 mg	RB
	Hydromorphone	✓		Dilaudid [®]	IR Tab: 1, 2, 4, 8 ^s mg	RB
				Hydromorph Contin [®]	CR Cap: 3, 4.5, 6, 9, 12, 18, 24, 30 mg	RB
				Jurnista [®]	PR Tab: 4, 8, 16, 32 mg	NAB
	Oxycodone	✓		Percocet-Demi [®]	Tab: oxycodone 2.5 mg / acetaminophen 325 mg ^s	RB
				Percocet [®] , Endocet [®]	Tab: oxycodone 5 mg / acetaminophen 325 mg ^s	RB
				Oxy-IR [®] , Supeudol [®]	IR Tab: 5 ^s , 10 ^s , 20 ^s mg	RB ¹
				OxyNEO [®]	CR Tab: 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 60, 80 mg	RB
				Targin [®]	CR Tab: 5/2.5, 10/5, 20/10, 40/20 mg (oxycodone/naloxone)	NAB
Fentanyl Patch	✓		Duragesic [®]	Patch: 12, 25, 50, 75, 100 mcg/hour	SA	
Tapentadol	✓		Nucynta IR [®]	IR Tab: 50, 75, 100 mg	NAB	
			Nucynta ER [®]	ER Tab: 50, 100, 150, 200, 250 mg	NAB	
Methadone	✓		Metadol [®]	Tab: 1 ^s , 5 ^s , 10 ^s , 25 ^s mg	RB ²	
Buprenorphine SL Tab*	✓		Suboxone [®]	SL Tab: 2/0.5, 8/2 mg (buprenorphine/naloxone)	RB ³	

Cap = capsule, Tab = tablet

CR = controlled release, ER = extended release, IR = immediate release, PR = prolonged release, SR = sustained release

^s = scored tablet

*Buprenorphine is a partial mu agonist and kappa antagonist. Buprenorphine Patch is indicated for pain; Buprenorphine SL Tab for opioid dependency.

AHW = Alberta Health and Wellness funding (i.e. government-sponsored Alberta Blue Cross plans)

RB = regular benefit; NAB = not a benefit

SA = special authorization. Fentanyl Special Authorization Request Form required; criteria = failure/contraindication to two discrete courses of morphine, hydromorphone, or oxycodone; note that generics are a benefit if approved by special authorization, but Duragesic[®] brand is not.

¹ with the exception of Oxy-IR[®] brand 5 mg tablets, which are not a benefit

² requires a general exemption license to initiate; requires a patient-specific license to maintain

³ requires an online buprenorphine opioid dependency prescribing course to initiate or maintain