



Affiliate Companies:

Aspire

Home Healthcare

Nightingale & Nightingale

Visiting Nurses

Hospice

HYDROCODONE / ACETAMINOPHEN

Brand names: Anexsia®, Co-Gesic®, Lorcet®, Lortab®, Norco®, Vicodin®, and others

What is this medication used for?

Hydrocodone is a narcotic, opioid analgesic, also known as a “pain killer.” It is used to treat moderate to severe pain associated with surgeries, cancers, and other conditions.

How should I take this medication?

Hydrocodone / Acetaminophen is taken by mouth as needed for pain. Your doctor will determine how often you should take it.

Hydrocodone / Acetaminophen should be taken with food to reduce nausea and vomiting side effect.

If you miss a scheduled dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to take it and skip the missed dose. You should not use two doses at the same time without the direction from your doctor.

It is not safe to take more than 4000mg of acetaminophen in 24 hours.

Do not take any new medication (prescription or over-the-counter) without checking with your doctor or pharmacist first.

What are the side effects of this medication?

Hydrocodone / Acetaminophen can cause confusion, drowsiness and dizziness. You should rise slowly from a lying or sitting position to reduce the dizziness. You should not drive or operate machinery while taking hydrocodone / acetaminophen.

Nausea and vomiting may occur. Taking hydrocodone / acetaminophen with food may decrease the likelihood of this.

Constipation may be caused by hydrocodone / acetaminophen, especially if it is taken on a regular basis. Talk to your nurse or doctor about how to prevent constipation with diet or the addition of a prescribed laxative to treat this side effect.

You should contact your doctor immediately if you experience any of the following:

- Shortness of breath or trouble breathing
- Light headedness or fainting
- Skin rash, itching or hives
- Slow heartbeat

Other side effects not listed may also occur. Check with your physician if you notice any other effects.

Special Instructions:

Hydrocodone / Acetaminophen is a High Alert Medication. This means that there is a risk of significant harm if Hydrocodone / Acetaminophen is used in error.

Hydrocodone / Acetaminophen may interact with a lot of other medicines. Make sure your doctor knows ALL of the medicines that you are taking.

Hydrocodone / Acetaminophen may be habit-forming. You should not use more than your doctor has prescribed or for longer amount of time than prescribed. If you feel it is not working as well to control your pain, do NOT take extra medication. Call your doctor for instructions.

This information is only a summary. Please contact your healthcare professional for additional information about this medication.

HomeCareForYou.com & HospiceForYou.com