

## PERCODAN<sup>®</sup>

(Oxycodone and Aspirin Tablets, USP)

### CII

#### **WARNING: SERIOUS AND LIFE-THREATENING RISKS FROM USE OF PERCODAN**

##### **Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse**

Because the use of PERCODAN exposes patients and other users to the risks of opioid addiction, abuse, and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death, assess each patient's risk prior to prescribing and reassess all patients regularly for the development of these behaviors and conditions [see **WARNINGS**].

##### **Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression**

Serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression may occur with use of PERCODAN, especially during initiation or following a dosage increase. To reduce the risk of respiratory depression, proper dosing and titration of PERCODAN are essential [see **WARNINGS**].

##### **Accidental Ingestion**

Accidental ingestion of even one dose of PERCODAN, especially by [or in] children, can result in a fatal overdose of oxycodone [see **WARNINGS**].

##### **Risks From Concomitant Use With Benzodiazepines Or Other CNS Depressants**

Concomitant use of opioids with benzodiazepines or other central nervous system (CNS) depressants, including alcohol, may result in profound sedation, respiratory depression, coma, and death. Reserve concomitant prescribing of PERCODAN and benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants for use in patients for whom alternative treatment options are inadequate [see **WARNINGS**].

##### **Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome (NOWS)**

If opioid use is required for an extended period of time in a pregnant woman, advise the patient of the risk of NOWS, which may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated. Ensure that management by neonatology experts will be available at delivery [see **WARNINGS**].

##### **Opioid Analgesic Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS)**

Healthcare providers are strongly encouraged to complete a REMS-compliant education program and to counsel patients and caregivers on serious risks, safe use, and the importance of reading the Medication Guide with each prescription [see **WARNINGS**].

##### **Cytochrome P450 3A4 Interaction**

The concomitant use of PERCODAN with all cytochrome P450 3A4 inhibitors may result in an increase in oxycodone plasma concentrations, which could increase or prolong adverse reactions and may cause potentially fatal respiratory depression. In addition, discontinuation of a concomitantly used cytochrome P450 3A4 inducer may result in an increase in oxycodone plasma concentration. Regularly evaluate patients receiving PERCODAN and any CYP3A4 inhibitor or inducer frequently [see **CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, WARNINGS, PRECAUTIONS; Drug Interactions**].

## DESCRIPTION

PERCODAN (oxycodone HCl USP and aspirin USP) tablets are an immediate-release opioid agonist intended for oral administration only.

Each PERCODAN Tablet contains:

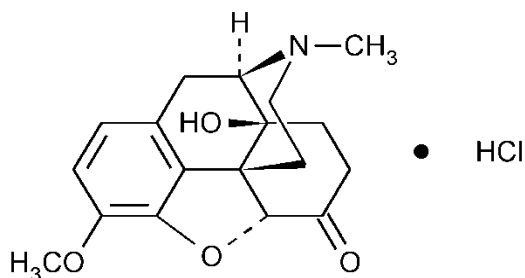
Oxycodone Hydrochloride, USP      4.8355 mg\*

Aspirin, USP      325 mg

\*4.8355 mg oxycodone HCl is equivalent to 4.3346 mg of oxycodone as the free base.

PERCODAN Tablets also contain the following inactive ingredients: D&C Yellow 10, FD&C Yellow 6, microcrystalline cellulose and corn starch.

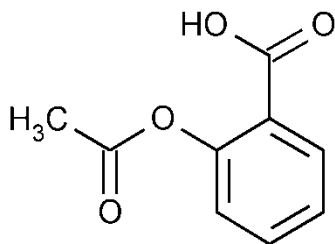
The oxycodone hydrochloride component is Morphinan-6-one, 4,5-epoxy-14-hydroxy-3-methoxy-17-methyl-, hydrochloride, (5 $\alpha$ )-, a white to off-white, hygroscopic crystals or powder, odorless, soluble in water; slightly soluble in alcohol and is represented by the following structural formula:



$C_{18}H_{21}NO_4 \bullet HCl$

MW 351.82

The aspirin component is 2-(acetyloxy)-, Benzoic acid, a white crystal, commonly tabular or needle-like, or white, crystalline powder. Is odorless or has a faint odor. Is stable in dry air; in moist air it gradually hydrolyzes to salicylic and acetic acids. Slightly soluble in water; freely soluble in alcohol; soluble in chloroform and in ether; sparingly soluble in absolute ether and is represented by the following structural formula:



$C_9H_8O_4$       MW 180.16

## CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

### Mechanism of Action

Oxycodone is a full opioid agonist and is relatively selective for the mu-opioid receptor, although it can bind to other opioid receptors at higher doses. The principal therapeutic action of oxycodone is analgesia. Like all full opioid agonists, there is no ceiling effect for analgesia with oxycodone. Clinically, dosage is titrated to provide adequate analgesia and may be limited by adverse reactions, including respiratory and CNS depression.

The precise mechanism of the analgesic action of oxycodone is unknown. However, specific CNS opioid receptors for endogenous compounds with opioid-like activity have been identified throughout the brain and spinal cord and are thought to play a role in the analgesic effects of this drug.

Aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid) works by inhibiting the body's production of prostaglandins, including prostaglandins involved in inflammation. Prostaglandins cause pain sensations by stimulating muscle contractions and dilating blood vessels throughout the body. In the CNS, aspirin works on the hypothalamus heat-regulating center to reduce fever, however, other mechanisms may be involved.

### Pharmacodynamics

#### Effects on the Central Nervous System

Oxycodone produces respiratory depression by direct action on brain stem respiratory centers. The respiratory depression involves a reduction in the responsiveness of the brain stem respiratory centers to increases in both carbon dioxide tension and electrical stimulation.

Oxycodone causes miosis, even in total darkness. Pinpoint pupils are a sign of opioid overdose but are not pathognomonic (e.g., pontine lesions of hemorrhagic or ischemic origins may produce similar findings). Marked mydriasis rather than miosis may be seen due to hypoxia in overdose situations.

#### Effects on the Gastrointestinal Tract and Other Smooth Muscle

Oxycodone causes a reduction in motility associated with an increase in smooth muscle tone in the antrum of the stomach and duodenum. Digestion of food in the small intestine is delayed and propulsive contractions are decreased. Propulsive peristaltic waves in the colon are decreased, while tone may be increased to the point of spasm resulting in constipation. Other opioid-induced effects may include a reduction in biliary and pancreatic secretions, spasm of sphincter of Oddi, and transient elevations in serum amylase.

Aspirin can produce gastrointestinal injury (lesions, ulcers) through a mechanism that is not yet completely understood but may involve a reduction in eicosanoid synthesis by the gastric mucosa. Decreased production of prostaglandins may compromise the defenses of the gastric mucosa and the activity of substances involved in tissue repair and ulcer healing.

#### Effects on the Cardiovascular System

Oxycodone produces peripheral vasodilation which may result in orthostatic hypotension or syncope. Manifestations of histamine release and/or peripheral vasodilation may include pruritus, flushing, red eyes and sweating and/or orthostatic hypotension.

Use caution in hypovolemic patients, such as those suffering acute myocardial infarction, because oxycodone may cause or further aggravate their hypotension. Caution must also be used in patients with cor pulmonale who have received therapeutic doses of opioids.

### Effects on the Endocrine System

Opioids inhibit the secretion of adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH), cortisol, and luteinizing hormone (LH) in humans [see [ADVERSE REACTIONS](#)]. They also stimulate prolactin, growth hormone (GH) secretion, and pancreatic secretion of insulin and glucagon.

Use of opioids for an extended period of time may influence the hypothalamic-pituitary-gonadal axis, leading to androgen deficiency that may manifest as low libido, impotence, erectile dysfunction, amenorrhea, or infertility. The causal role of opioids in the clinical syndrome of hypogonadism is unknown because the various medical, physical, lifestyle, and psychological stressors that may influence gonadal hormone levels have not been adequately controlled for in studies conducted to date [see [ADVERSE REACTIONS](#)].

### Effects on the Immune System

Opioids have been shown to have a variety of effects on components of the immune system in in vitro and animal models. The clinical significance of these findings is unknown. Overall, the effects of opioids appear to be modestly immunosuppressive.

### Concentration–Efficacy Relationships

The minimum effective analgesic concentration will vary widely among patients, especially among patients who have been previously treated with opioid agonists. The minimum effective analgesic concentration of oxycodone for any individual patient may increase over time due to an increase in pain, the development of a new pain syndrome and/or the development of analgesic tolerance [see [DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION](#)].

### Concentration–Adverse Reaction Relationships

There is a relationship between increasing oxycodone plasma concentration and increasing frequency of dose-related opioid adverse reactions such as nausea, vomiting, CNS effects, and respiratory depression. In opioid-tolerant patients, the situation may be altered by the development of tolerance to opioid-related adverse reactions [see [DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION](#)].

The dose of PERCODAN must be individualized because the effective analgesic dose for some patients will be too high to be tolerated by other patients [see [DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION](#)].

### **Platelet Aggregation**

Aspirin affects platelet aggregation by irreversibly inhibiting prostaglandin cyclo-oxygenase. This effect lasts for the life of the platelet and prevents the formation of the platelet aggregating factor thromboxane A<sub>2</sub>. Nonacetylated salicylates do not inhibit this enzyme and have no effect on platelet aggregation. At somewhat higher doses, aspirin reversibly inhibits the formation of prostaglandin I<sub>2</sub> (prostacyclin), which is an arterial vasodilator and inhibits platelet aggregation.

### **Pharmacokinetics**

#### Absorption

The mean absolute oral bioavailability of oxycodone in cancer patients was reported to be about 87%. This high oral bioavailability is due to low pre-systemic elimination and/or first-pass metabolism.

#### Distribution

The volume of distribution after intravenous administration is  $211.9 \pm 186.6$  L. Oxycodone has been shown to be 45% bound to human plasma proteins *in vitro*. Oxycodone has been found in breast milk [see [PRECAUTIONS](#)].

Aspirin is hydrolyzed primarily to salicylic acid in the gut wall and during first-pass metabolism through the liver. Salicylic acid is absorbed rapidly from the stomach, but most of the absorption occurs in the proximal small intestine. Following absorption, salicylate is distributed to most body tissues and fluids, including fetal tissues, breast milk, and the CNS. High concentrations are found in the liver and kidneys. Salicylate is variably bound to serum proteins, particularly albumin.

### Elimination

#### ***Metabolism***

Oxycodone is extensively metabolized by multiple metabolic pathways to produce noroxycodone, oxymorphone and noroxymorphone, which are subsequently glucuronidated. Noroxycodone and noroxymorphone are the major circulating metabolites. CYP3A mediated N-demethylation to noroxycodone is the primary metabolic pathway of oxycodone with a lower contribution from CYP2D6 mediated O-demethylation to oxymorphone. Therefore, the formation of these and related metabolites can, in theory, be affected by other drugs (see *Drug-Drug Interactions*).

Noroxycodone exhibits very weak anti-nociceptive potency compared to oxycodone, however, it undergoes further oxidation to produce noroxymorphone, which is active at opioid receptors. Although noroxymorphone is an active metabolite and present at relatively high concentrations in circulation, it does not appear to cross the blood-brain barrier to a significant extent. Oxymorphone, is present in the plasma only at low concentrations and undergoes further metabolism to form its glucuronide and noroxymorphone. Oxymorphone has been shown to be active and possessing analgesic activity but its contribution to analgesia following oxycodone administration is thought to be clinically insignificant, based on the amount formed. Other metabolites ( $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -oxycodol, noroxycodol and oxymorphol) may be present at very low concentrations and demonstrate limited penetration into the brain as compared to oxycodone. The enzymes responsible for keto-reduction and glucuronidation pathways in oxycodone metabolism have not been established.

The biotransformation of aspirin occurs primarily in the liver by the microsomal enzyme system. With a plasma half-life of approximately 15 minutes, aspirin is rapidly hydrolyzed to salicylate. At low doses, salicylate elimination follows first-order kinetics. The plasma half-life of salicylate is approximately 2 to 3 hours.

#### ***Excretion***

Free and conjugated noroxycodone, free and conjugated oxycodone, and oxymorphone are excreted in human urine following a single oral dose of oxycodone. Approximately 8% to 14% of the dose is excreted as free oxycodone over 24 hours after administration.

Approximately 10% of aspirin is excreted as unchanged salicylate in the urine. The major metabolites excreted in the urine are salicylic acid (75%), salicyl phenolic glucuronide (10%), salicyl acyl glucuronide (5%), and gentisic and gentisuric acid (less than 1%) each. Eighty to 100% of a single dose is excreted in the urine within 24 to 72 hours.

### **Drug-Drug Interactions [see [PRECAUTIONS](#)]**

#### Inhibitors of CYP3A4

Since the CYP3A4 isoenzyme plays a major role in the metabolism of PERCODAN, drugs that inhibit CYP3A4 activity, such as macrolide antibiotics (e.g., erythromycin), azole-antifungal agents (e.g., ketoconazole), and protease inhibitors (e.g., ritonavir), may cause decreased clearance of oxycodone which could lead to an increase in oxycodone plasma concentrations. A published study showed that the co-administration of the antifungal drug, voriconazole, increased oxycodone AUC and  $C_{max}$  by 3.6- and 1.7-fold, respectively. The expected clinical results would be increased or prolonged opioid effects.

### Inducers of CYP450

CYP450 inducers, such as rifampin, carbamazepine, and phenytoin, may induce the metabolism of oxycodone, may cause increased clearance of the drug which could lead to a decrease in oxycodone plasma concentrations. A published study showed that the co-administration of rifampin, a drug metabolizing enzyme inducer, decreased oxycodone (oral) AUC and  $C_{max}$  by 86% and 63% respectively. The expected clinical results would be lack of efficacy or, possibly, development of abstinence syndrome in a patient who had developed physical dependence to oxycodone. Induction of CYP3A4 may be of greatest importance given oxycodone's metabolic pathways.

## INDICATIONS AND USAGE

PERCODAN is indicated for the management of pain severe enough to require an opioid analgesic and for which alternative treatments are inadequate.

### Limitations of Use

Because of the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse with opioids, which can occur at any dosage or duration [*see WARNINGS*], reserve PERCODAN for use in patients for whom alternative treatment options (e.g., non-opioid analgesics)

- Have not been tolerated or are not expected to be tolerated,
- Have not provided adequate analgesia or are not expected to provide adequate analgesia

PERCODAN should not be used for an extended period of time unless the pain remains severe enough to require an opioid analgesic and for which alternative treatment options continue to be inadequate.

## CONTRAINDICATIONS

PERCODAN is contraindicated in patients with:

- Significant respiratory depression [*see WARNINGS*]
- Acute or severe bronchial asthma in an unmonitored setting or in the absence of resuscitative equipment [*see WARNINGS*]
- Known or suspected gastrointestinal obstruction, including paralytic ileus [*see WARNINGS*]
- Hypersensitivity to oxycodone or aspirin (e.g., angioedema) [*see WARNINGS*]
- Patients with hemophilia
- Aspirin should not be used in children or teenagers for viral infections, with or without fever, because of the risk of Reye syndrome [*see WARNINGS*]

## WARNINGS

### **Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse**

PERCODAN contain Oxycodone, a Schedule II controlled substance. As an opioid, PERCODAN exposes users to the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse [*see DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE*].

Although the risk of addiction in any individual is unknown, it can occur in patients appropriately prescribed PERCODAN. Addiction can occur at recommended dosages and if the drug is misused or abused.

Assess each patient's risk for opioid addiction, abuse, or misuse prior to prescribing PERCODAN, and reassess all patients receiving PERCODAN for the development of these behaviors and conditions. Risks are increased in patients with a personal or family history of substance abuse (including drug or alcohol abuse or addiction) or mental illness (e.g., major depression). The potential for these risks should not, however, prevent the proper management of pain in any given patient. Patients at increased risk may be prescribed opioids such as PERCODAN but use in such patients necessitates intensive counseling about the risks and proper use of PERCODAN along with frequent reevaluation for signs of addiction, abuse, and misuse. Consider prescribing naloxone for the emergency treatment of opioid overdose [see [WARNINGS, DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION](#)].

Opioids are sought for nonmedical use and are subject to diversion from legitimate prescribed use. Consider these risks when prescribing or dispensing PERCODAN. Strategies to reduce these risks include prescribing the drug in the smallest appropriate quantity and advising the patient on careful storage of the drug during the course of treatment and proper disposal of unused drug [see [PRECAUTIONS; Information for Patients/Caregivers](#)]. Contact local state professional licensing board or state-controlled substances authority for information on how to prevent and detect abuse or diversion of this product.

### **Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression**

Serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression has been reported with the use of opioids, even when used as recommended. Respiratory depression, if not immediately recognized and treated, may lead to respiratory arrest and death. Management of respiratory depression may include close observation, supportive measures, and use of opioid antagonists, depending on the patient's clinical status [see [OVERDOSAGE](#)]. Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) retention from opioid-induced respiratory depression can exacerbate the sedating effects of opioids.

While serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression can occur at any time during the use of PERCODAN, the risk is greatest during the initiation of therapy or following a dosage increase.

To reduce the risk of respiratory depression, proper dosing and titration of PERCODAN are essential [see [DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION](#)]. Overestimating the PERCODAN dosage when converting patients from another opioid product can result in a fatal overdose with the first dose.

Accidental ingestion of even one dose of PERCODAN, especially by children can result in respiratory depression and death due to an overdose of oxycodone.

Educate patients and caregivers on how to recognize respiratory depression and emphasize the importance of calling 911 or getting emergency medical help right away in the event of a known or suspected overdose [see [PRECAUTIONS; Information for Patients/Caregivers](#)].

Opioids can cause sleep-related breathing disorders including central sleep apnea (CSA) and sleep-related hypoxemia. Opioid use increases the risk of CSA in a dose-dependent fashion. In patients who present with CSA, consider decreasing the opioid dosage using best practices for opioid taper [see [DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION](#)].

### **Patient Access to Naloxone for the Emergency Treatment of Opioid Overdose**

Discuss the availability of naloxone for the emergency treatment of opioid overdose with the patient and caregiver and assess the potential need for access to naloxone, both when initiating and renewing treatment with PERCODAN. Inform patients and caregivers about the various ways to obtain naloxone as

permitted by individual state naloxone dispensing and prescribing requirements or guidelines (e.g., by prescription, directly from a pharmacist, or as part of a community-based program). Educate patients and caregivers on how to recognize respiratory depression and emphasize the importance of calling 911 or getting emergency medical help, even if naloxone is administered [see [PRECAUTIONS; Information for Patients/Caregivers](#)].

Consider prescribing naloxone, based on the patient's risk factors for overdose, such as concomitant use of other CNS depressants, a history of opioid use disorder, or prior opioid overdose. The presence of risk factors for overdose should not prevent the proper management of pain in any given patient. Also consider prescribing naloxone if the patient has household members (including children) or other close contacts at risk for accidental ingestion or overdose. If naloxone is prescribed, educate patients and caregivers on how to treat with naloxone [see [WARNINGS, PRECAUTIONS; Information for Patients/Caregivers, OVERDOSAGE](#)].

### **Risks from Concomitant Use with Benzodiazepines or Other CNS Depressants**

Profound sedation, respiratory depression, coma, and death may result from the concomitant use of PERCODAN with benzodiazepines and/or other CNS depressants, including alcohol (e.g., non-benzodiazepine sedatives/hypnotics, anxiolytics, tranquilizers, muscle relaxants, general anesthetics, antipsychotics, other opioids). Because of these risks, reserve concomitant prescribing of these drugs for use in patients for whom alternative treatment options are inadequate.

Observational studies have demonstrated that concomitant use of opioid analgesics and benzodiazepines increases the risk of drug-related mortality compared to use of opioid analgesics alone. Because of similar pharmacological properties, it is reasonable to expect similar risk with the concomitant use of other CNS depressant drugs with opioid analgesics [see [PRECAUTIONS; Drug Interactions](#)].

If the decision is made to prescribe a benzodiazepine or other CNS depressant concomitantly with an opioid analgesic, prescribe the lowest effective dosages and minimum durations of concomitant use. In patients already receiving an opioid analgesic, prescribe a lower initial dose of the benzodiazepine or other CNS depressant than indicated in the absence of an opioid, and titrate based on clinical response. If an opioid analgesic is initiated in a patient already taking a benzodiazepine or other CNS depressant, prescribe a lower initial dose of the opioid analgesic, and titrate based on clinical response. Inform patients and caregivers of this potential interaction and educate them on the signs and symptoms of respiratory depression (including sedation).

If concomitant use is warranted, consider prescribing naloxone for the emergency treatment of opioid overdose [see [WARNINGS, DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION](#)].

Advise both patients and caregivers about the risks of respiratory depression and sedation when PERCODAN is used with benzodiazepine or other CNS depressants (including alcohol and illicit drugs). Advise patients not to drive or operate heavy machinery until the effects of concomitant use of the benzodiazepine or other CNS depressant have been determined. Screen patients for risk of substance use disorders, including opioid abuse and misuse, and warn them of the risk for overdose and death associated with the use of additional CNS depressants including alcohol and illicit drugs [see [PRECAUTIONS; Drug Interactions](#)].

### **Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome**

Use of PERCODAN for an extended period of time during pregnancy can result in withdrawal in the neonate. Neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, unlike opioid withdrawal syndrome in adults, may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated, and requires management according to protocols developed by neonatology experts. Observe newborns for signs of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and manage accordingly. Advise pregnant women using opioids for an extended period of time of the risk of neonatal



opioid withdrawal syndrome and ensure that appropriate treatment will be available [see [PRECAUTIONS; Information for Patients/Caregivers, Pregnancy](#)].

### **Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS)**

To ensure that the benefits of opioid analgesics outweigh the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has required a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) for these products. Under the requirements of the REMS, drug companies with approved opioid analgesic products must make REMS-compliant education programs available to healthcare providers. Healthcare providers are strongly encouraged to do all of the following:

- Complete a [REMS-compliant education program](#) offered by an accredited provider of continuing education (CE) or another education program that includes all the elements of the FDA Education Blueprint for Health Care Providers Involved in the Management or Support of Patients with Pain.
- Discuss the safe use, serious risks, and proper storage and disposal of opioid analgesics with patients and/or their caregivers every time these medicines are prescribed. The Patient Counseling Guide (PCG) can be obtained at this link: [www.fda.gov/OpioidAnalgesicREMSPCG](http://www.fda.gov/OpioidAnalgesicREMSPCG).
- Emphasize to patients and their caregivers the importance of reading the Medication Guide that they will receive from their pharmacist every time an opioid analgesic is dispensed to them.
- Consider using other tools to improve patient, household, and community safety, such as patient-prescriber agreements that reinforce patient-prescriber responsibilities.

To obtain further information on the opioid analgesic REMS and for a list of accredited REMS CME/CE, call 1-800-503-0784, or log on to [www.opioidanalgesicrems.com](http://www.opioidanalgesicrems.com). The FDA Blueprint can be found at [www.fda.gov/OpioidAnalgesicREMSBlueprint](http://www.fda.gov/OpioidAnalgesicREMSBlueprint).

### **Risks of Concomitant Use or Discontinuation of Cytochrome P450 3A4 Inhibitors and Inducers**

Concomitant use of PERCODAN with a CYP3A4 inhibitor, such as macrolide antibiotics (e.g., erythromycin), azole-antifungal agents (e.g., ketoconazole), and protease inhibitors (e.g., ritonavir), may increase plasma concentrations of oxycodone and prolong opioid adverse reactions, which may cause potentially fatal respiratory depression [see [WARNINGS](#)], particularly when an inhibitor is added after a stable dose of PERCODAN is achieved. Similarly, discontinuation of a CYP3A4 inducer, such as rifampin, carbamazepine, and phenytoin, in PERCODAN-treated patients may increase PERCODAN plasma concentrations and prolong opioid adverse reactions. When using PERCODAN with CYP3A4 inhibitors or discontinuing CYP3A4 inducers in PERCODAN-treated patients, evaluate patients at frequent intervals and consider dosage reduction of PERCODAN until stable drug effects are achieved [see [PRECAUTIONS; Drug Interactions](#)].

Concomitant use of PERCODAN with CYP3A4 inducers or discontinuation of a CYP3A4 inhibitor could decrease oxycodone plasma concentrations, decrease opioid efficacy or, possibly, lead to a withdrawal syndrome in a patient who had developed physical dependence to oxycodone. When using PERCODAN with CYP3A4 inducers or discontinuing CYP3A4 inhibitors, evaluate patients at frequent intervals and consider increasing the opioid dosage if needed to maintain adequate analgesia or if symptoms of opioid withdrawal occur [see [PRECAUTIONS; Drug Interactions](#)].

### **Opioid-Induced Hyperalgesia and Allodynia**

Opioid-Induced Hyperalgesia (OIH) occurs when an opioid analgesic paradoxically causes an increase in pain, or an increase in sensitivity to pain. This condition differs from tolerance, which is the need for increasing doses of opioids to maintain a defined effect [see [DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE](#)].

Symptoms of OIH include (but may not be limited to) increased levels of pain upon opioid dosage increase, decreased levels of pain upon opioid dosage decrease, or pain from ordinarily non-painful stimuli (allodynia). These symptoms may suggest OIH only if there is no evidence of underlying disease progression, opioid tolerance, opioid withdrawal, or addictive behavior.

Cases of OIH have been reported, both with short-term and longer-term use of opioid analgesics. Though the mechanism of OIH is not fully understood, multiple biochemical pathways have been implicated. Medical literature suggests a strong biologic plausibility between opioid analgesics and OIH and allodynia. If a patient is suspected to be experiencing OIH, carefully consider appropriately decreasing the dose of the current opioid analgesic or opioid rotation (safely switching the patient to a different opioid moiety) [see [WARNINGS, DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION](#)].

### **Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression in Patients with Chronic Pulmonary Disease or in Elderly, Cachectic, or Debilitated Patients**

The use of PERCODAN in patients with acute or severe bronchial asthma in an unmonitored setting or in the absence of resuscitative equipment is contraindicated.

Patients with Chronic Pulmonary Disease: PERCODAN-treated patients with significant chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or cor pulmonale, and those with a substantially decreased respiratory reserve, hypoxia, hypercapnia, or pre-existing respiratory depression are at increased risk of decreased respiratory drive including apnea, even at recommended dosages of PERCODAN [see [WARNINGS](#)].

Elderly, Cachectic, or Debilitated Patients: Life-threatening respiratory depression is more likely to occur in elderly, cachectic, or debilitated patients because they may have altered pharmacokinetics or altered clearance compared to younger, healthier patients [see [WARNINGS](#)].

Regularly evaluate patients, particularly when initiating and titrating PERCODAN and when PERCODAN is given concomitantly with other drugs that depress respiration [see [WARNINGS](#)]. Alternatively, consider the use of non-opioid analgesics in these patients.

### **Adrenal Insufficiency**

Cases of adrenal insufficiency have been reported with opioid use, more often following greater than 1 month of use. Presentation of adrenal insufficiency may include non-specific symptoms and signs including nausea, vomiting, anorexia, fatigue, weakness, dizziness, and low blood pressure. If adrenal insufficiency is suspected, confirm the diagnosis with diagnostic testing as soon as possible. If adrenal insufficiency is diagnosed, treat with physiologic replacement doses of corticosteroids. Wean the patient off of the opioid to allow adrenal function to recover and continue corticosteroid treatment until adrenal function recovers. Other opioids may be tried as some cases reported use of a different opioid without recurrence of adrenal insufficiency. The information available does not identify any particular opioids as being more likely to be associated with adrenal insufficiency.

### **Severe Hypotension**

PERCODAN may cause severe hypotension including orthostatic hypotension and syncope in ambulatory patients. There is increased risk in patients whose ability to maintain blood pressure has already been compromised by a reduced blood volume or concurrent administration of certain CNS depressant drugs (e.g., phenothiazines or general anesthetics). Regularly evaluate these patients for signs of hypotension after initiating or titrating the dosage of PERCODAN. In patients with circulatory shock, PERCODAN may cause vasodilation that can further reduce cardiac output and blood pressure. Avoid the use of PERCODAN in patients with circulatory shock.

## **Risks of Use in Patients with Increased Intracranial Pressure, Brain Tumors, Head Injury, or Impaired Consciousness**

In patients who may be susceptible to the intracranial effects of CO<sub>2</sub> retention (e.g., those with evidence of increased intracranial pressure or brain tumors), PERCODAN may reduce respiratory drive, and the resultant CO<sub>2</sub> retention can further increase intracranial pressure. Monitor such patients for signs of sedation and respiratory depression, particularly when initiating therapy with PERCODAN.

Opioids may also obscure the clinical course in a patient with a head injury. Avoid the use of PERCODAN in patients with impaired consciousness or coma.

## **Risks of Use in Patients with Gastrointestinal Conditions**

PERCODAN is contraindicated in patients with known or suspected gastrointestinal obstruction, including paralytic ileus.

The oxycodone in PERCODAN may cause spasm of the sphincter of Oddi. Opioids may cause increases in serum amylase. Regularly evaluate patients with biliary tract disease, including acute pancreatitis, for worsening symptoms.

## **Increased Risk of Seizures in Patients with Seizure Disorders**

The oxycodone in PERCODAN may increase the frequency of seizures in patients with seizure disorders and may increase the risk of seizures occurring in other clinical settings associated with seizures. Regularly evaluate patients with a history of seizure disorders for worsened seizure control during PERCODAN therapy.

## **Withdrawal**

Do not abruptly discontinue PERCODAN in a patient physically dependent on opioids. When discontinuing PERCODAN, in a physically dependent patient, gradually taper the dosage. Rapid tapering of oxycodone and aspirin in a patient physically dependent on opioids may lead to a withdrawal syndrome and return of pain [see *DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE*].

Additionally, avoid the use of mixed agonist/antagonist (i.e., pentazocine, nalbuphine, and butorphanol) or partial agonist (buprenorphine) analgesics in patients who have received or are receiving a course of therapy with a full opioid agonist analgesic, including PERCODAN. In these patients, mixed agonist/antagonist and partial agonist analgesics may reduce the analgesic effect and/or may precipitate withdrawal symptoms [see *PRECAUTIONS; Drug Interactions*].

## **Fetal Toxicity**

### Premature Closure of Fetal Ductus Arteriosus

Avoid use of NSAIDs, including PERCODAN, in pregnant women at about 30 weeks gestation and later. NSAIDs including PERCODAN, increase the risk of premature closure of the fetal ductus arteriosus at approximately this gestational age.

### Oligohydramnios/Neonatal Renal Impairment

Use of NSAIDs, including PERCODAN, at about 20 weeks gestation or later in pregnancy may cause fetal renal dysfunction leading to oligohydramnios and, in some cases, neonatal renal impairment. These adverse outcomes are seen, on average, after days to weeks of treatment, although oligohydramnios has been infrequently reported as soon as 48 hours after NSAID initiation.

Oligohydramnios is often, but not always, reversible with treatment discontinuation. Complications of prolonged oligohydramnios may, for example, include limb contractures and delayed lung maturation. In

some postmarketing cases of impaired neonatal renal function, invasive procedures such as exchange transfusion or dialysis were required.

If NSAID treatment is necessary between about 20 weeks and 30 weeks gestation, limit PERCODAN use to the lowest effective dose and shortest duration possible. Consider ultrasound monitoring of amniotic fluid if PERCODAN treatment extends beyond 48 hours. Discontinue PERCODAN if oligohydramnios occurs and follow up according to clinical practice [see *PRECAUTIONS; Pregnancy*].

### **Risks of Driving and Operating Machinery**

PERCODAN may impair the mental or physical abilities needed to perform potentially hazardous activities such as driving a car or operating machinery. Warn patients not to drive or operate dangerous machinery unless they are tolerant to the effects of PERCODAN and know how they will react to the medication [see *PRECAUTIONS; Information for Patients/Caregivers*].

### **Hypersensitivity to Oxycodone or Aspirin (e.g., angioedema)**

PERCODAN tablets are contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to oxycodone or aspirin, and in any situation where opioids or aspirin are contraindicated.

### **Reye Syndrome**

Aspirin should not be used in children or teenagers for viral infections, with or without fever, because of the risk of Reye syndrome with concomitant use of aspirin in certain viral illnesses.

### **Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS)**

Drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS) has been reported in patients taking NSAIDs such as PERCODAN. Some of these events have been fatal or life-threatening. DRESS typically, although not exclusively, presents with fever, rash, lymphadenopathy, and/or facial swelling. Other clinical manifestations may include hepatitis, nephritis, hematological abnormalities, myocarditis, or myositis. Sometimes symptoms of DRESS may resemble an acute viral infection. Eosinophilia is often present. Because this disorder is variable in its presentation, other organ systems not noted here may be involved. It is important to note that early manifestations of hypersensitivity, such as fever or lymphadenopathy, may be present even though rash is not evident. If such signs or symptoms are present, discontinue PERCODAN and evaluate the patient immediately.

### **Alcohol Warning**

Patients who consume three or more alcoholic drinks every day should be counseled about the bleeding risks involved with chronic, heavy alcohol use while taking aspirin.

### **Coagulation Abnormalities**

Even low doses of aspirin can inhibit platelet function leading to an increase in bleeding time. This can adversely affect patients with inherited (hemophilia) or acquired (liver disease or vitamin K deficiency) bleeding disorders.

### **Peptic Ulcer Disease**

Patients with a history of active peptic ulcer disease should avoid using aspirin, which can cause gastric mucosal irritation and bleeding.

## PRECAUTIONS

### General

Aspirin has been associated with elevated hepatic enzymes, blood urea nitrogen and serum creatinine, hyperkalemia, proteinuria, and prolonged bleeding time.

### Hemorrhage

Aspirin may increase the likelihood of hemorrhage due to its effect on the gastric mucosa and platelet function (prolongation of bleeding time). Salicylates should be used with caution in the presence of peptic ulcer or coagulation abnormalities.

### Ambulatory Surgery and Postoperative Use

Oxycodone and other morphine-like opioids have been shown to decrease bowel motility. Ileus is a common postoperative complication, especially after intra-abdominal surgery with use of opioid analgesia. Caution should be taken to monitor for decreased bowel motility in postoperative patients receiving opioids. Standard supportive therapy should be implemented.

### Information for Patients/Caregivers

Advise the patient to read the FDA-approved patient labeling (Medication Guide).

#### Storage and Disposal

Because of the risks associated with accidental ingestion, misuse, and abuse, advise patients to store PERCODAN securely, out of sight and reach of children, and in a location not accessible by others, including visitors to the home. Inform patients that leaving PERCODAN unsecured can pose a deadly risk to others in the home [see [WARNINGS, DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE](#)].

Advise patients and caregivers that when medicines are no longer needed, they should be disposed of promptly. Expired, unwanted, or unused PERCODAN should be disposed of by flushing the unused medication down the toilet if a drug take-back option is not readily available. Inform patients that they can visit [www.fda.gov/drugdisposal](http://www.fda.gov/drugdisposal) for a complete list of medicines recommended for disposal by flushing, as well as additional information on disposal of unused medicines.

#### Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse

Inform patients that the use of PERCODAN, even when taken as recommended, can result in addiction, abuse, and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death [see [WARNINGS](#)]. Instruct patients not to share PERCODAN with others and to take steps to protect PERCODAN from theft or misuse.

#### Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression

Inform patients of the risk of life-threatening respiratory depression, including information that the risk is greatest when starting PERCODAN or when the dosage is increased, and that it can occur even at recommended dosages.

Educate patients and caregivers on how to recognize respiratory depression and emphasize the importance of calling 911 or getting emergency medical help right away in the event of a known or suspected overdose [see [WARNINGS](#)].

#### Accidental Ingestion

Inform patients that accidental ingestion, especially by children, may result in respiratory depression or death [see [WARNINGS](#)].

### Interactions with Benzodiazepines and Other CNS Depressants

Inform patients and caregivers that potentially fatal additive effects may occur if PERCODAN is used with benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants, including alcohol, and not to use these concomitantly unless supervised by a health care provider [see *WARNINGS, PRECAUTIONS; Drug Interactions*].

### Patient Access to Naloxone for the Emergency Treatment of Opioid Overdose

Discuss with the patient and caregiver the availability of naloxone for the emergency treatment of opioid overdose, both when initiating and renewing treatment with PERCODAN. Inform patients and caregivers about the various ways to obtain naloxone as permitted by individual state naloxone dispensing and prescribing requirements or guidelines (e.g., by prescription, directly from a pharmacist, or as part of a community-based program) [see *WARNINGS, DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION*].

Educate patients and caregivers on how to recognize the signs and symptoms of an overdose.

Explain to patients and caregivers that naloxone's effects are temporary, and that they must call 911 or get emergency medical help right away in all cases of known or suspected opioid overdose, even if naloxone is administered [see *OVERDOSAGE*].

If naloxone is prescribed, also advise patients and caregivers:

- How to treat with naloxone in the event of an opioid overdose
- To tell family and friends about their naloxone and to keep it in a place where family and friends can access it in an emergency
- To read the Patient Information (or other educational material) that will come with their naloxone. Emphasize the importance of doing this before an opioid emergency happens, so the patient and caregiver will know what to do.

### Hyperalgesia and Allodynia

Inform patients and caregivers not to increase opioid dosage without first consulting a clinician. Advise patients to seek medical attention if they experience symptoms of hyperalgesia, including worsening pain, increased sensitivity to pain, or new pain [see *WARNINGS; ADVERSE REACTIONS*].

### Serotonin Syndrome

Inform patients that PERCODAN could cause a rare but potentially life-threatening condition called serotonin syndrome resulting from concomitant administration of serotonergic drugs. Warn patients of the symptoms of serotonin syndrome and to seek medical attention right away if symptoms develop. Instruct patients to inform their physicians if they are taking, or plan to take serotonergic medications.

### MAOI Interaction

Inform patients to avoid taking PERCODAN while using any drugs that inhibit monoamine oxidase. Patients should not start MAOIs while taking PERCODAN [see *PRECAUTIONS; Drug Interactions*].

### Important Administration Instructions

Instruct patients how to properly take PERCODAN. The usual dosage is one tablet every 6 hours as needed for pain. The maximum daily dose of aspirin should not exceed 4 grams [see *DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, PRECAUTIONS*].

### Important Discontinuation Instructions

In order to avoid developing withdrawal symptoms, instruct patients not to discontinue PERCODAN without first discussing a tapering plan with the prescriber [see *DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION*].

### Driving or Operating Heavy Machinery

Inform patients that PERCODAN may impair the ability to perform potentially hazardous activities such as driving a car or operating heavy machinery. Advise patients not to perform such tasks until they know how they will react to the medication [see [WARNINGS](#)].

### Constipation

Advise patients of the potential for severe constipation, including management instructions and when to seek medical attention [see [ADVERSE REACTIONS](#), [CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY](#)].

### Adrenal Insufficiency

Inform patients that PERCODAN could cause adrenal insufficiency, a potentially life-threatening condition. Adrenal insufficiency may present with non-specific symptoms and signs such as nausea, vomiting, anorexia, fatigue, weakness, dizziness, and low blood pressure. Advise patients to seek medical attention if they experience a constellation of these symptoms [see [WARNINGS](#)].

### Hypotension

Inform patients that PERCODAN may cause orthostatic hypotension and syncope. Instruct patients how to recognize symptoms of low blood pressure and how to reduce the risk of serious consequences should hypotension occur (e.g., sit or lie down, carefully rise from a sitting or lying position).

### Anaphylaxis

Inform patients that anaphylaxis have been reported with ingredients contained in PERCODAN. Advise patients how to recognize such a reaction and when to seek medical attention [see [CONTRAINDICATIONS](#), [ADVERSE REACTIONS](#)].

### Pregnancy

#### *Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome*

Inform female patients of reproductive potential that use of PERCODAN for an extended period of time during pregnancy can result in neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, which may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated [see [WARNINGS](#), [PRECAUTIONS](#); [Pregnancy](#)]

#### *Embryo-Fetal Toxicity*

Inform female patients of reproductive potential that PERCODAN can cause fetal harm and to inform the healthcare provider of a known or suspected pregnancy. Inform pregnant women to avoid use of aspirin and other NSAIDs starting at 30 weeks gestation because of the risk of the premature closing of the fetal ductus arteriosus. If treatment with PERCODAN is needed for a pregnant woman between about 20 to 30 weeks gestation, advise her that she may need to be monitored for oligohydramnios, if treatment continues for longer than 48 hours [see [WARNINGS](#); [Fetal Toxicity](#), [PRECAUTIONS](#); [Pregnancy](#)].

### Lactation

Advise nursing mothers to carefully observe infants for increased sleepiness (more than usual), breathing difficulties, or limpness. Instruct nursing mothers to seek immediate medical care if they notice these signs.

### Infertility

Inform patients that use of opioids for an extended period of time may cause reduced fertility. It is not known whether these effects on fertility are reversible [see [ADVERSE REACTIONS](#)].

### Serious Skin Reactions, including DRESS

Advise patients to stop taking PERCODAN immediately if they develop any type of rash or fever and to contact their healthcare provider as soon as possible [see [WARNINGS](#)].

### Laboratory Tests

Although oxycodone may cross-react with some drug urine tests, no available studies were found which determined the duration of detectability of oxycodone in urine drug screens. However, based on pharmacokinetic data, the approximate duration of detectability for a single dose of oxycodone is roughly estimated to be one to two days following drug exposure.

Urine testing for opiates may be performed to determine illicit drug use and for medical reasons such as evaluation of patients with altered states of consciousness or monitoring efficacy of drug rehabilitation efforts. The preliminary identification of opiates in urine involves the use of an immunoassay screening and thin-layer chromatography (TLC). Gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS) may be utilized as a third-stage identification step in the medical investigational sequence for opiate testing after immunoassay and TLC. The identities of 6-keto opiates (e.g., oxycodone) can further be differentiated by the analysis of their methoxime-trimethylsilyl (MO-TMS) derivative.

**Table 1: Clinically Significant Drug Interactions with PERCODAN**

<b>Inhibitors of CYP3A4 and CYP2D6</b>	
<i>Clinical Impact:</i>	The concomitant use of PERCODAN and CYP3A4 inhibitors can increase the plasma concentration of oxycodone, resulting in increased or prolonged opioid effects. These effects could be more pronounced with concomitant use of PERCODAN and CYP2D6 and CYP3A4 inhibitors, particularly when an inhibitor is added after a stable dose of PERCODAN is achieved [see <a href="#">WARNINGS</a> ].  After stopping a CYP3A4 inhibitor, as the effects of the inhibitor decline, the oxycodone plasma concentration will decrease [see <a href="#">CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY</a> ], resulting in decreased opioid efficacy or a withdrawal syndrome in patients who had developed physical dependence to oxycodone.
<i>Intervention:</i>	If concomitant use is necessary, consider dosage reduction of PERCODAN until stable drug effects are achieved. Evaluate patients at frequent intervals for respiratory depression and sedation.  If a CYP3A4 inhibitor is discontinued, consider increasing the PERCODAN dosage until stable drug effects are achieved. Assess for signs of opioid withdrawal.
<i>Examples:</i>	Macrolide antibiotics (e.g., erythromycin), azole-antifungal agents (e.g., ketoconazole), protease inhibitors (e.g., ritonavir)
<b>CYP3A4 Inducers</b>	
<i>Clinical Impact:</i>	The concomitant use of PERCODAN and CYP3A4 inducers can decrease the plasma concentration of oxycodone [see <a href="#">CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY</a> ], resulting in decreased efficacy or onset of a withdrawal syndrome in patients who have developed physical dependence to oxycodone [see <a href="#">WARNINGS</a> ].  After stopping a CYP3A4 inducer, as the effects of the inducer decline, the oxycodone plasma concentration will increase [see <a href="#">CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY</a> ], which could increase or prolong both the therapeutic effects and adverse reactions, and may cause serious respiratory depression.
<i>Intervention:</i>	If concomitant use is necessary, consider increasing the PERCODAN dosage until stable drug effects are achieved. Assess for signs of opioid withdrawal and sedation. If a CYP3A4 inducer is discontinued, consider PERCODAN dose reduction and evaluate patients at frequent intervals for signs of respiratory depression and sedation.
<i>Examples:</i>	Rifampin, carbamazepine, phenytoin



<b>Benzodiazepines and Other Central Nervous System (CNS) Depressants</b>	
<i>Clinical Impact:</i>	Due to additive pharmacologic effect, the concomitant use of benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants including alcohol, increases the risk of respiratory depression, profound sedation, coma, and death.
<i>Intervention:</i>	Reserve concomitant prescribing of these drugs for use in patients for whom alternative treatment options are inadequate. Limit dosages and durations to the minimum required. Inform patients and caregivers of this potential interaction and educate them on the signs and symptoms of respiratory depression (including sedation). If concomitant use is warranted, consider prescribing naloxone for the emergency treatment of opioid overdose [see <b>WARNINGS</b> ].
<i>Examples:</i>	Benzodiazepines and other sedatives/hypnotics, anxiolytics, tranquilizers, muscle relaxants, general anesthetics, antipsychotics, other opioids, alcohol.
<b>Serotonergic Drugs</b>	
<i>Clinical Impact:</i>	The concomitant use of opioids with other drugs that affect the serotonergic neurotransmitter system has resulted in serotonin syndrome.
<i>Intervention:</i>	If concomitant use is warranted, frequently evaluate the patient, particularly during treatment initiation and dose adjustment. Discontinue PERCODAN if serotonin syndrome is suspected.
<i>Examples:</i>	Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), serotonin and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs), tricyclic antidepressants (TCAs), triptans, 5-HT <sub>3</sub> receptor antagonists, drugs that affect the serotonin neurotransmitter system (e.g., mirtazapine, trazodone, tramadol), certain muscle relaxants (i.e., cyclobenzaprine, metaxalone), monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitors (those intended to treat psychiatric disorders and also others, such as linezolid and intravenous methylene blue).
<b>Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOIs)</b>	
<i>Clinical Impact:</i>	MAOI interactions with opioids may manifest as serotonin syndrome or opioid toxicity (e.g., respiratory depression, coma) [see <b>WARNINGS</b> ].
<i>Intervention:</i>	The use of PERCODAN is not recommended for patients taking MAOIs or within 14 days of stopping such treatment.  If urgent use of an opioid is necessary, use test doses and frequent titration of small doses to treat pain while closely monitoring blood pressure and signs and symptoms of CNS and respiratory depression.
<i>Examples:</i>	phenelzine, tranylcypromine, linezolid
<b>Mixed Agonist/Antagonist and Partial Agonist Opioid Analgesics</b>	
<i>Clinical Impact:</i>	May reduce the analgesic effect of PERCODAN and/or precipitate withdrawal symptoms
<i>Intervention:</i>	Avoid concomitant use.
<i>Examples:</i>	Butorphanol, nalbuphine, pentazocine, buprenorphine,
<b>Muscle Relaxants</b>	
<i>Clinical Impact:</i>	Oxycodone may enhance the neuromuscular blocking action of skeletal muscle relaxants and produce an increased degree of respiratory depression.
<i>Intervention:</i>	Monitor patients for signs of respiratory depression that may be greater than otherwise expected and decrease the dosage of PERCODAN and/or the muscle relaxant as necessary. Due to the risk of respiratory depression with concomitant use of muscle relaxants and opioids, consider prescribing naloxone for the emergency treatment of opioid overdose.
<b>Diuretics</b>	
<i>Clinical Impact:</i>	Opioids can reduce the efficacy of diuretics by inducing the release of antidiuretic hormone.
<i>Intervention:</i>	Evaluate patients for signs of diminished diuresis and/or effects on blood pressure and increase the dosage of the diuretic as needed.

<b>Anticholinergic Drugs</b>	
<i>Clinical Impact:</i>	The concomitant use of anticholinergic drugs may increase risk of urinary retention and/or severe constipation, which may lead to paralytic ileus.
<i>Intervention:</i>	Evaluate patients for signs of urinary retention or reduced gastric motility when PERCODAN is used concomitantly with anticholinergic drugs.
<b>Analgesics</b>	
<i>Clinical Impact:</i>	Analgesics may reduce the analgesic effect of oxycodone or may precipitate withdrawal symptoms
<i>Intervention:</i>	Should be administered with caution to a patient who has received or is receiving a full opioid agonist such as oxycodone.
<i>Examples:</i>	Pentazocine, nalbuphine, naltrexone, and butorphanol

### Drug/Drug Interactions with Aspirin

**Angiotensin Converting Enzyme (ACE) Inhibitors:** The hyponatremic and hypotensive effects of ACE inhibitors may be diminished by the concomitant administration of aspirin due to its indirect effect on the renin-angiotensin conversion pathway.

**Acetazolamide:** Concurrent use of aspirin and acetazolamide can lead to high serum concentrations of acetazolamide (and toxicity) due to competition at the renal tubule for secretion.

**Anticoagulant Therapy (Heparin and Warfarin):** Patients on anticoagulation therapy are at increased risk for bleeding because of drug-drug interactions and the effect on platelets. Aspirin can displace warfarin from protein binding sites, leading to prolongation of both the prothrombin time and the bleeding time. Aspirin can increase the anticoagulant activity of heparin, increasing bleeding risk.

**Anticonvulsants:** Salicylate can displace protein-bound phenytoin and valproic acid, leading to a decrease in the total concentration of phenytoin and an increase in serum valproic acid levels.

**Beta Blockers:** The hypotensive effects of beta blockers may be diminished by the concomitant administration of aspirin due to inhibition of renal prostaglandins, leading to decreased renal blood flow, and salt and fluid retention.

**Diuretics:** The effectiveness of diuretics in patients with underlying renal or cardiovascular disease may be diminished by the concomitant administration of aspirin due to inhibition of renal prostaglandins, leading to decreased renal blood flow and salt and fluid retention.

**Methotrexate:** Aspirin may enhance the serious side and toxicity of methotrexate due to displacement from its plasma protein binding sites and/or reduced renal clearance.

**Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs):** The concurrent use of aspirin with other NSAIDs should be avoided because this may increase bleeding or lead to decreased renal function. Aspirin may enhance the serious side effects and toxicity of ketorolac, due to displacement from its plasma protein binding sites and/or reduced renal clearance.

**Oral Hypoglycemics Agents:** Aspirin may increase the serum glucose-lowering action of insulin and sulfonylureas leading to hypoglycemia.

**Uricosuric Agents:** Salicylates antagonize the uricosuric action of probenecid or sulfinpyrazone.

### Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions

Depending on the sensitivity/specificity and the test methodology, the individual components of PERCODAN tablets may cross-react with assays used in the preliminary detection of cocaine (primary urinary metabolite, benzoylecgonine) or marijuana (cannabinoids) in human urine. A more specific

alternate chemical method must be used in order to obtain a confirmed analytical result. The preferred confirmatory method is gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS). Moreover, clinical considerations and professional judgment should be applied to any drug-of-abuse test result, particularly when preliminary positive results are used.

Salicylates may increase the protein bound iodine (PBI) result by competing for the protein binding sites on pre-albumin and possibly thyroid-binding globulins.

## **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility**

### Carcinogenesis

Long-term studies in animals to evaluate the carcinogenic potential of oxycodone and aspirin have not been conducted.

### Mutagenesis

The combination of oxycodone and aspirin has not been evaluated for mutagenicity. Oxycodone alone was negative in a bacterial reverse mutation assay (Ames), an *in vitro* chromosome aberration assay with human lymphocytes without metabolic activation and an *in vivo* mouse micronucleus assay. Oxycodone was clastogenic in the human lymphocyte chromosomal assay in the presence of metabolic activation and in the mouse lymphoma assay with or without metabolic activation. Aspirin induced chromosome aberrations in cultured human fibroblasts.

### Impairment of Fertility

Animal studies to evaluate the effects of oxycodone on fertility have not been conducted. Aspirin has been shown to inhibit ovulation in rats.

## **Pregnancy**

### Risk Summary

Use of opioid analgesics for an extended period of time during pregnancy may cause neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome [see **WARNINGS**]. Available data with PERCODAN are insufficient to inform a drug-associated risk for major birth defects and miscarriage. Reproduction studies in rats and rabbits demonstrated that oral administration of oxycodone was not teratogenic or embryo-fetal toxic. In several published studies, treatment of pregnant rats with oxycodone at clinically relevant doses and below, resulted in neurobehavioral effects in offspring (see **Data**). Based on animal data, advise pregnant women of the potential risk to a fetus.

Use of NSAIDs, including aspirin, can cause premature closure of the fetal ductus arteriosus and fetal renal dysfunction leading to oligohydramnios and, in some cases, neonatal renal impairment. Because of these risks, limit dose and duration of PERCODAN use between about 20 and 30 weeks of gestation, and avoid PERCODAN use at about 30 weeks of gestation and later in pregnancy [see **WARNINGS; Fetal Toxicity**].

#### *Premature Closure of Fetal Ductus Arteriosus:*

Use of NSAIDs, including aspirin, at about 30 weeks gestation or later in pregnancy increases the risk of premature closure of the fetal ductus arteriosus.

#### *Oligohydramnios/Neonatal Renal Impairment:*

Use of NSAIDs at about 20 weeks gestation or later in pregnancy has been associated with cases of fetal renal dysfunction leading to oligohydramnios, and in some cases, neonatal renal impairment.

Data from observational studies regarding other potential embryofetal risks of NSAID use in women in the first or second trimesters of pregnancy are inconclusive.

Based on animal data, prostaglandins have been shown to have an important role in endometrial vascular permeability, blastocyst implantation, and decidualization. In animal studies, administration of prostaglandin synthesis inhibitors such as aspirin, resulted in increased pre- and post-implantation loss. Prostaglandins also have been shown to have an important role in fetal kidney development. In published animal studies, prostaglandin synthesis inhibitors have been reported to impair kidney development when administered at clinically relevant doses.

The estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage for the indicated population(s) is unknown. All pregnancies have a background risk of birth defect, loss, or other adverse outcomes. In the U.S. general population, the estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage in clinically recognized pregnancies is 2% to 4% and 15% to 20% respectively.

### Clinical Considerations

#### *Fetal/Neonatal Adverse Reactions:*

Use of opioid analgesics for extended period of time during pregnancy for medical or nonmedical purposes can result in physical dependence in the neonate and neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome shortly after birth.

Neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome presents as irritability, hyperactivity and abnormal sleep pattern, high pitched cry, tremor, vomiting, diarrhea, and failure to gain weight. The onset, duration, and severity of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome vary based on the specific opioid used, duration of use, timing and amount of last maternal use, and rate of elimination of the drug by the newborn. Observe newborns for symptoms of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, and manage accordingly [see [WARNINGS](#)].

#### Premature Closure of Fetal Ductus Arteriosus

Avoid use of NSAIDs in women at about 30 weeks gestation and later in pregnancy, because NSAIDs, including PERCODAN, can cause premature closure of the fetal ductus arteriosus [see [WARNINGS](#); [Fetal Toxicity](#)].

#### Oligohydramnios/Neonatal Renal Impairment:

If an NSAID is necessary at about 20 weeks gestation or later in pregnancy, limit the use to the lowest effective dose and shortest duration possible. If PERCODAN treatment extends beyond 48 hours, consider monitoring with ultrasound for oligohydramnios. If oligohydramnios occurs, discontinue PERCODAN and follow up according to clinical practice [see [WARNINGS](#); [Fetal Toxicity](#)].

#### *Labor or Delivery:*

Opioids cross the placenta and may produce respiratory depression and psycho-physiologic effects in neonates. An opioid antagonist, such as naloxone must be available for reversal of opioid-induced respiratory depression in the neonate. PERCODAN is not recommended for use in women during and immediately prior to labor, when use of shorter acting analgesics or other analgesic techniques are more appropriate. Occasionally, opioid analgesics, including PERCODAN, can prolong labor through actions which temporarily reduce the strength, duration, and frequency of uterine contractions. However this effect is not consistent and may be offset by an increased rate of cervical dilatation, which tends to shorten labor. Monitor neonates exposed to opioid analgesics during labor for signs of excess sedation and respiratory depression.

### Data

#### *Human Data*

#### Premature Closure of Fetal Ductus Arteriosus:

Published literature reports that the use of NSAIDs at about 30 weeks of gestation and later in pregnancy may cause premature closure of the fetal ductus arteriosus.

#### Oligohydramnios/Neonatal Renal Impairment:

Published studies and postmarketing reports describe maternal NSAID use at about 20 weeks gestation or later in pregnancy associated with fetal renal dysfunction leading to oligohydramnios, and in some cases, neonatal renal impairment. These adverse outcomes are seen, on average, after days to weeks of treatment, although oligohydramnios has been infrequently reported as soon as 48 hours after NSAID initiation. In many cases, but not all, the decrease in amniotic fluid was transient and reversible with cessation of the drug. There have been a limited number of case reports of maternal NSAID use and neonatal renal dysfunction without oligohydramnios, some of which were irreversible. Some cases of neonatal renal dysfunction required treatment with invasive procedures, such as exchange transfusion or dialysis.

Methodological limitations of these postmarketing studies and reports include lack of a control group; limited information regarding dose, duration, and timing of drug exposure; and concomitant use of other medications. These limitations preclude establishing a reliable estimate of the risk of adverse fetal and neonatal outcomes with maternal NSAID use. Because the published safety data on neonatal outcomes involved mostly preterm infants, the generalizability of certain reported risks to the full-term infant exposed to NSAIDs through maternal use is uncertain.

#### *Animal Data:*

Reproduction studies in rats and rabbits demonstrated that oral administration of oxycodone was not teratogenic or embryo-fetal toxic. In published studies, offspring of pregnant rats administered oxycodone during gestation have been reported to exhibit neurobehavioral effects including altered stress responses, increased anxiety-like behavior (2 mg/kg/day IV from Gestation Day 8 to 21 and Postnatal Day 1, 3, and 5; 0.3-times an adult human dose of 60 mg/day, on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis) and altered learning and memory (15 mg/kg/day orally from breeding through parturition; 2.4 times an adult human dose of 60 mg/day, on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis).

#### **Lactation**

##### Risk Summary

Oxycodone is present in breast milk. Published lactation studies report variable concentrations of oxycodone in breast milk with administration of immediate-release oxycodone to nursing mothers in the early postpartum period. The lactation studies did not assess breastfed infants for potential adverse reactions. Lactation studies have not been conducted with extended-release oxycodone, including PERCODAN, and no information is available on the effects of the drug on the breastfed infant or the effects of the drug on milk production. Because of the potential for serious adverse reactions, including excess sedation and respiratory depression in a breastfed infant, advise patients that breastfeeding is not recommended during treatment with PERCODAN.

Salicylic acid has been detected in breast milk. Adverse effects on platelet function in the nursing infant exposed to aspirin in breast milk may be a potential risk. Furthermore, the risk of Reye Syndrome caused by salicylate in breast milk is unknown. The developmental and health benefits of breastfeeding should be considered along with the mother's clinical need for PERCODAN and any potential adverse effects on the breastfed child from PERCODAN or from the underlying maternal condition.

##### Clinical Considerations

Monitor infants exposed to PERCODAN through breast milk for excess sedation and respiratory depression. Withdrawal symptoms can occur in breastfed infants when maternal administration of an opioid analgesic is stopped or when breastfeeding is stopped.

## **Females and Males of Reproductive Potential**

### Infertility

Use of opioids for an extended period of time may cause reduced fertility in females and males of reproductive potential. It is not known whether these effects on fertility are reversible.

### **Pediatric Use**

PERCODAN tablets should not be administered to pediatric patients. Reye Syndrome is a rare but serious disease which can follow flu or chicken pox in children and teenagers. While the cause of Reye Syndrome is unknown, some reports claim aspirin (or salicylates) may increase the risk of developing this disease.

### **Geriatric Use**

Elderly patients (aged 65 years or older) may have increased sensitivity to oxycodone. In general, use caution when selecting a dosage for an elderly patient, usually starting at the low end of the dosing range, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy.

Respiratory depression is the chief risk for elderly patients treated with opioids and has occurred after large initial doses were administered to patients who were not opioid-tolerant or when opioids were co-administered with other agents that depress respiration. Titrate the dosage of PERCODAN slowly in geriatric patients and frequently reevaluate the patient for signs of central nervous system and respiratory depression.

This drug is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of adverse reactions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection, and it may be useful to regularly evaluate renal function.

### **Hepatic Impairment**

In a pharmacokinetic study of oxycodone in patients with end-stage liver disease, oxycodone plasma clearance decreased and the elimination half-life increased. Care should be exercised when oxycodone is used in patients with hepatic impairment.

Avoid aspirin in patients with severe hepatic impairment.

### **Renal Impairment**

In a study of patients with end stage renal impairment, mean elimination half-life of oxycodone was prolonged in uremic patients due to increased volume of distribution and reduced clearance. Oxycodone should be used with caution in patients with renal impairment.

Avoid aspirin in patients with severe renal impairment (glomerular filtration rate less than 10 mL/minute).

## **ADVERSE REACTIONS**

The following serious adverse reactions are described, or described in greater detail, in other sections:

- Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse [see [WARNINGS](#)]
- Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression [see [WARNINGS](#)]
- Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome [see [WARNINGS](#)]

- Opioid-Induced Hyperalgesia and Allodynia [see [WARNINGS](#)]
- Interactions with Benzodiazepines and Other CNS Depressants [see [WARNINGS](#)]
- Adrenal Insufficiency [see [WARNINGS](#)]
- Severe Hypotension [see [WARNINGS](#)]
- Gastrointestinal Adverse Reactions [see [WARNINGS](#)]
- Seizures [see [WARNINGS](#)]
- Withdrawal [see [WARNINGS](#)]

### **Clinical Trials Experience**

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

Serious adverse reactions that may be associated with PERCODAN tablet use include, apnea, circulatory depression, hypotension, respiratory arrest, respiratory depression, and shock [see [OVERDOSAGE](#)].

The most frequently observed non-serious adverse reactions include lightheadedness, dizziness, drowsiness or sedation, nausea, and vomiting. These effects seem to be more prominent in ambulatory than in nonambulatory patients, and some of these adverse reactions may be alleviated if the patient lies down. Other adverse reactions include euphoria, dysphoria, constipation and pruritus.

Aspirin may increase the likelihood of hemorrhage due to its effect on the gastric mucosa and platelet function. Furthermore, aspirin has the potential to cause anaphylaxis in hypersensitive patients as well as angioedema especially in patients with chronic urticaria. Other adverse reactions due to aspirin use include anorexia, reversible hepatotoxicity, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia, purpura, decreased plasma iron concentration, and shortened erythrocyte survival time.

### **Postmarketing Experience**

The following adverse reactions have been identified during post approval use of oxycodone. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

The adverse reactions obtained from postmarketing experiences with PERCODAN tablets are listed by organ system and in decreasing order of severity and/or frequency as follows:

#### Body as a Whole

allergic reaction, malaise, asthenia, headache, anaphylaxis, fever, hypothermia, thirst, increased sweating, accident, accidental overdose, non-accidental overdose

#### Cardiovascular

tachycardia, dysrhythmias, hypotension, orthostatic hypotension, bradycardia, palpitations

#### Central and Peripheral Nervous System

stupor, paresthesia, agitation, cerebral edema, coma, confusion, dizziness, headache, subdural or intracranial hemorrhage, lethargy, seizures, anxiety, mental impairment

### Fluid and Electrolyte

dehydration, hyperkalemia, metabolic acidosis, respiratory alkalosis

### Gastrointestinal

hemorrhagic gastric/duodenal ulcer, gastric/peptic ulcer, dyspepsia, abdominal pain, diarrhea, eructation, dry mouth, gastrointestinal bleeding, intestinal perforation, nausea, vomiting, transient elevations of hepatic enzymes, hepatitis, Reye syndrome, pancreatitis, intestinal obstruction, ileus

### Hearing and Vestibular

hearing loss, tinnitus. Patients with high frequency loss may have difficulty perceiving tinnitus. In these patients, tinnitus cannot be used as a clinical indicator of salicylism.

### Hematologic

unspecified hemorrhage, purpura, reticulocytosis, prolongation of prothrombin time, disseminated intravascular coagulation, ecchymosis, thrombocytopenia

### Hypersensitivity

acute anaphylaxis, angioedema, asthma, bronchospasm, laryngeal edema, urticaria, anaphylactoid reaction

### Metabolic and Nutritional

hypoglycemia, hyperglycemia, acidosis, alkalosis

### Musculoskeletal

rhabdomyolysis

### Ocular

miosis, visual disturbances, red eye

### Psychiatric

drug dependence, drug abuse, somnolence, depression, nervousness, hallucination

### Reproductive

prolonged pregnancy and labor, stillbirths, lower birth weight infants, antepartum and postpartum bleeding, closure of patent ductus arteriosus

### Respiratory System

bronchospasm, dyspnea, hyperpnea, pulmonary edema, tachypnea, aspiration, hypoventilation, laryngeal edema

### Skin and Appendages

urticaria, rash, flushing

### Urogenital

interstitial nephritis, papillary necrosis, proteinuria, renal insufficiency and failure, urinary retention



### Serotonin syndrome

Cases of serotonin syndrome, a potentially life-threatening condition, have been reported during concomitant use of opioids with serotonergic drugs.

### Adrenal insufficiency

Cases of adrenal insufficiency have been reported with opioid use, more often following greater than one month of use.

### Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis has been reported with ingredients contained in PERCODAN.

### Androgen deficiency

Cases of androgen deficiency have occurred with use of opioids for an extended period of time [*see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY*].

Hyperalgesia and Allodynia: Cases of hyperalgesia and allodynia have been reported with opioid therapy of any duration [*see WARNINGS*]

Hypoglycemia: Cases of hypoglycemia have been reported in patients taking opioids. Most reports were in patients with at least one predisposing risk factor (e.g., diabetes).

## **OVERDOSAGE**

### **Clinical Presentation**

Acute overdose with oxycodone can be manifested by respiratory depression, somnolence progressing to stupor or coma, skeletal muscle flaccidity, cold and clammy skin, constricted pupils, and, in some cases, pulmonary edema, bradycardia, hypotension, hypoglycemia, partial or complete airway obstruction, atypical snoring, and death. Marked mydriasis rather than miosis may be seen with hypoxia in overdose situations [*see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY*].

Early signs of acute aspirin (salicylate) overdose including tinnitus occur at plasma concentrations approaching 200 mcg/mL. Plasma concentrations of aspirin above 300 mcg/mL are toxic. Severe toxic effects are associated with levels above 400 mcg/mL. A single lethal dose of aspirin in adults is not known with certainty but death may be expected at 30 g. For real or suspected overdose, a Poison Control Center should be contacted immediately.

In acute salicylate overdose, severe acid-base and electrolyte disturbances may occur and are complicated by hyperthermia and dehydration, and coma. Respiratory alkalosis occurs early while hyperventilation is present but is quickly followed by metabolic acidosis. Serious symptoms such as depression, coma, and respiratory failure progress rapidly.

Salicylism (chronic salicylate toxicity) may be noted by symptoms such as dizziness, tinnitus, difficulty hearing, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and mental confusion. More severe salicylism may result in respiratory alkalosis.

### **Treatment of Overdose**

In case of overdose, priorities are the reestablishment of a patent and protected airway and institution of assisted or controlled ventilation, if needed. Employ other supportive measures (including oxygen and vasopressors) in the management of circulatory shock and pulmonary edema as indicated. Cardiac arrest or arrhythmias will require advanced life-support measures.

Opioid antagonists, such as naloxone, are specific antidotes to respiratory depression resulting from opioid overdose. For clinically significant respiratory or circulatory depression secondary to opioid overdose, administer an opioid antagonist.

Because the duration of opioid reversal is expected to be less than the duration of action of oxycodone in PERCODAN, carefully monitor the patient until spontaneous respiration is reliably re-established. If the response to an opioid antagonist is suboptimal or only brief in nature, administer additional antagonist as directed by the product's prescribing information.

In an individual physically dependent on opioids, administration of the recommended usual dosage of the antagonist will precipitate an acute withdrawal syndrome. The severity of the withdrawal symptoms experienced will depend on the degree of physical dependence and the dose of the antagonist administered. If a decision is made to treat serious respiratory depression in the physically dependent patient, administration of the antagonist should be begun with care and by titration with smaller than usual doses of the antagonist.

## **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

### **Important Dosage and Administration Instructions**

PERCODAN should be prescribed only by healthcare professionals who are knowledgeable about the use of opioids and how to mitigate the associated risks.

Use the lowest effective dosage for the shortest duration of time consistent with individual patient treatment goals [see [WARNINGS](#)]. Because the risk of overdose increases as opioid doses increase, reserve titration to higher doses of PERCODAN for patients in whom lower doses are insufficiently effective and in whom the expected benefits of using a higher dose opioid clearly outweigh the substantial risks.

Many acute pain conditions (e.g., the pain that occurs with a number of surgical procedures or acute musculoskeletal injuries) require no more than a few days of an opioid analgesic. Clinical guidelines on opioid prescribing for some acute pain conditions are available.

There is variability in the opioid analgesic dose and duration needed to adequately manage pain due both to the cause of pain and to individual patient factors. Initiate the dosing regimen for each patient individually, taking into account the patient's underlying cause and severity of pain, prior analgesic treatment and response, and risk factors for addiction, abuse, and misuse [see [WARNINGS](#)].

Respiratory depression can occur at any time during opioid therapy, especially when initiating and following dosage increases with PERCODAN. Consider this risk when selecting an initial dose and when making dose adjustments [see [WARNINGS](#)].

### **Patient Access to Naloxone for the Emergency Treatment of Opioid Overdose**

Discuss the availability of naloxone for the emergency treatment of opioid overdose with the patient and caregiver and assess the potential need for access to naloxone, both when initiating and renewing treatment with PERCODAN [see [WARNINGS](#), [PRECAUTIONS](#); [Information for Patients/Caregivers](#)].

Inform patients and caregivers about the various ways to obtain naloxone as permitted by individual state naloxone dispensing and prescribing regulations (e.g., by prescription, directly from a pharmacist, or as part of a community-based program).

Consider prescribing naloxone, based on the patient's risk factors for overdose, such as concomitant use of CNS depressants, a history of opioid use disorder, or prior opioid overdose. The presence of risk factors for overdose should not prevent the proper management of pain in any given patient [see

*WARNINGS; Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse; Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression; Risks from Concomitant Use with Benzodiazepines or Other CNS Depressants*].

Consider prescribing naloxone when the patient has household members (including children) or other close contacts at risk for accidental ingestion or overdose.

## **Initial Dosage**

### Initiating Treatment with PERCODAN

Initiate treatment with one tablet every 6 hours as needed for pain, and at the lowest dose necessary to achieve adequate analgesia. Titrate the dose based upon the individual patient's response to their initial dose of PERCODAN. The maximum daily dose of aspirin should not exceed 4 grams or 12 tablets.

## **Titration and Maintenance of Therapy**

Individually titrate PERCODAN to a dose that provides adequate analgesia and minimizes adverse reactions. Continually reevaluate patients receiving PERCODAN to assess the maintenance of pain control, signs and symptoms of opioid withdrawal, and other adverse reactions, as well as to reassess for the development of addiction, abuse, or misuse [see *WARNINGS*]. Frequent communication is important among the prescriber, other members of the healthcare team, the patient, and the caregiver/family during periods of changing analgesic requirements, including initial titration.

If the level of pain increases after dosage stabilization, attempt to identify the source of increased pain before increasing the PERCODAN dosage. If after increasing the dosage, unacceptable opioid-related adverse reactions are observed (including an increase in pain after a dosage increase), consider reducing the dosage [see *WARNINGS*]. Adjust the dosage to obtain an appropriate balance between management of pain and opioid-related adverse reactions.

## **Safe Reduction or Discontinuation of PERCODAN Tablets**

Do not abruptly discontinue PERCODAN in patients who may be physically dependent on opioids. Rapid discontinuation of opioid analgesics in patients who are physically dependent on opioids has resulted in serious withdrawal symptoms, uncontrolled pain, and suicide. Rapid discontinuation has also been associated with attempts to find other sources of opioid analgesics, which may be confused with drug-seeking for abuse. Patients may also attempt to treat their pain or withdrawal symptoms with illicit opioids, such as heroin, and other substances.

When a decision has been made to decrease the dose or discontinue therapy in an opioid-dependent patient taking PERCODAN, there are a variety of factors that should be considered, including the total daily dose of opioid (including PERCODAN) the patient has been taking, the duration of treatment, the type of pain being treated, and the physical and psychological attributes of the patient. It is important to ensure ongoing care of the patient and to agree on an appropriate tapering schedule and follow-up plan so that patient and provider goals and expectations are clear and realistic. When opioid analgesics are being discontinued due to a suspected substance use disorder, evaluate and treat the patient, or refer for evaluation and treatment of the substance use disorder. Treatment should include evidence-based approaches, such as medication assisted treatment of opioid use disorder. Complex patients with comorbid pain and substance use disorders may benefit from referral to a specialist.

There are no standard opioid tapering schedules that are suitable for all patients. Good clinical practice dictates a patient-specific plan to taper the dose of the opioid gradually. For patients on PERCODAN who are physically opioid-dependent, initiate the taper by a small enough increment (e.g., no greater than 10% to 25% of the total daily dose) to avoid withdrawal symptoms, and proceed with dose-lowering at an interval of every 2 to 4 weeks. Patients who have been taking opioids for briefer periods of time may tolerate a more rapid taper.

It may be necessary to provide the patient with lower dosage strengths to accomplish a successful taper. Reassess the patient frequently to manage pain and withdrawal symptoms, should they emerge. Common withdrawal symptoms include restlessness, lacrimation, rhinorrhea, yawning, perspiration, chills, myalgia, and mydriasis. Other signs and symptoms also may develop, including irritability, anxiety, backache, joint pain, weakness, abdominal cramps, insomnia, nausea, anorexia, vomiting, diarrhea, or increased blood pressure, respiratory rate, or heart rate. If withdrawal symptoms arise, it may be necessary to pause the taper for a period of time or raise the dose of the opioid analgesic to the previous dose, and then proceed with a slower taper. In addition, evaluate patients for any changes in mood, emergence of suicidal thoughts, or use of other substances.

When managing patients taking opioid analgesics, particularly those who have been treated for an extended period of time and/or with high doses for chronic pain, ensure that a multimodal approach to pain management, including mental health support (if needed), is in place prior to initiating an opioid analgesic taper. A multimodal approach to pain management may optimize the treatment of chronic pain, as well as assist with the successful tapering of the opioid analgesic [see [WARNINGS; Withdrawal, DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE](#)].

## **DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE**

### **Controlled Substance**

PERCODAN contain oxycodone, a Schedule II controlled substance.

### **Abuse**

PERCODAN contains oxycodone, a substance with high potential for misuse and abuse, which can lead to the development of substance use disorder, including addiction [see [WARNINGS](#)].

Misuse is the intentional use, for therapeutic purposes, of a drug by an individual in a way other than prescribed by a healthcare provider or for whom it was not prescribed.

Abuse is the intentional, non-therapeutic use of a drug, even once, for its desirable psychological or physiological effects.

Drug addiction is a cluster of behavioral, cognitive, and physiological phenomena that may include a strong desire to take the drug, difficulties in controlling drug use (e.g., continuing drug use despite harmful consequences, giving a higher priority to drug use than other activities and obligations), and possible tolerance or physical dependence.

Misuse and abuse of PERCODAN increases risk of overdose, which may lead to central nervous system and respiratory depression, hypotension, seizures, and death. The risk is increased with concurrent abuse of PERCODAN with alcohol and/or other CNS depressants. Abuse of and addiction to opioids in some individuals may not be accompanied by concurrent tolerance and symptoms of physical dependence. In addition, abuse of opioids can occur in the absence of addiction.

All patients treated with opioids require careful and frequent reevaluation for signs of misuse, abuse, and addiction, because use of opioid analgesic products carries the risk of addiction even under appropriate medical use. Patients at high risk of PERCODAN abuse include those with a history of prolonged use of any opioid, including products containing oxycodone, those with a history of drug or alcohol abuse, or those who use PERCODAN in combination with other abused drugs.

“Drug-seeking” behavior is very common in persons with substance use disorders. Drug-seeking tactics include emergency calls or visits near the end of office hours, refusal to undergo appropriate examination, testing, or referral, repeated “loss” of prescriptions, tampering with prescriptions, and reluctance to provide prior medical records or contact information for other treating healthcare provider(s). “Doctor

shopping” (visiting multiple prescribers to obtain additional prescriptions) is common among people who abuse drugs and people with substance use disorder. Preoccupation with achieving adequate pain relief can be appropriate behavior in a patient with inadequate pain control.

PERCODAN, like other opioids, can be diverted for nonmedical use into illicit channels of distribution. Careful record-keeping of prescribing information, including quantity, frequency, and renewal requests, as required by state and federal law, is strongly advised.

Proper assessment of the patient, proper prescribing practices, periodic reevaluation of therapy, and proper dispensing and storage are appropriate measures that help to limit abuse of opioid drugs.

#### Risks Specific to Abuse of PERCODAN

PERCODAN is for oral use only. Abuse of PERCODAN poses a risk of overdose and death. The risk is increased with concurrent use of PERCODAN with alcohol and/or other CNS depressants.

Parenteral drug abuse is commonly associated with transmission of infectious diseases such as hepatitis and HIV.

#### **Dependence**

Both tolerance and physical dependence can develop during use of opioid therapy.

Tolerance is a physiological state characterized by a reduced response to a drug after repeated administration (i.e., a higher dose of a drug is required to produce the same effect that was once obtained at a lower dose).

Physical dependence is a state that develops as a result of a physiological adaptation in response to repeated drug use, manifested by withdrawal signs and symptoms after abrupt discontinuation or a significant dose reduction of a drug.

Withdrawal may be precipitated through the administration of drugs with opioid antagonist activity (e.g., naloxone), mixed agonist/antagonist analgesics (e.g., pentazocine, butorphanol, nalbuphine), or partial agonists (e.g., buprenorphine). Physical dependence may not occur to a clinically significant degree until after several days to weeks of continued use.

Do not abruptly discontinue PERCODAN in a patient physically dependent on opioids. Rapid tapering of PERCODAN in a patient physically dependent on opioids may lead to serious withdrawal symptoms, uncontrolled pain, and suicide. Rapid discontinuation has also been associated with attempts to find other sources of opioid analgesics, which may be confused with drug-seeking for abuse.

When discontinuing PERCODAN, gradually taper the dosage using a patient specific plan that considers the following: the dose of PERCODAN the patient has been taking, the duration of treatment, and the physical and psychological attributes of the patient. To improve the likelihood of a successful taper and minimize withdrawal symptoms, it is important that the opioid tapering schedule is agreed upon by the patient. In patients taking opioids for an extended period of time at high doses, ensure that a multimodal approach to pain management, including mental health support (if needed), is in place prior to initiating an opioid analgesic taper [*see [DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION](#) and [WARNINGS](#)*]

Infants born to mothers physically dependent on opioids will also be physically dependent and may exhibit respiratory difficulties and withdrawal signs.

#### **HOW SUPPLIED**

PERCODAN (Oxycodone and Aspirin Tablets, USP), tablets are supplied as a yellow round tablet, scored and debossed with “PERCODAN” on one side and plain on the other side.

Available in:  
Bottles of 100    NDC 63481-121-70

Store at 25°C (77°F); excursions permitted to 15°-30°C (59°-86°F). [See USP Controlled Room Temperature.]

Dispense in a tight, light-resistant container as defined in the USP, with a child-resistant closure (as required).

DEA Order Form Required.

Store PERCODAN securely and dispose of properly [*see PRECAUTIONS; Information for Patients/Caregivers*].

Distributed by:  
Endo Pharmaceuticals Inc.  
Malvern, PA 19355

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## MEDICATION GUIDE

### PERCODAN® ( 'pær-kæ- dan) (oxycodone hydrochloride and aspirin) tablets, for oral use, CII

#### PERCODAN is:

- A strong prescription pain medicine that contains an opioid (narcotic) that is used to manage pain severe enough to require an opioid pain medicine when other pain treatments such as non-opioid pain medicines do not treat your pain well enough or you cannot tolerate them.
- An opioid pain medicine that can put you at risk for overdose and death. Even if you take your dose correctly as prescribed you are at risk for opioid addiction, abuse, and misuse that can lead to death.

#### Important information about PERCODAN:

- **Get emergency help or call 911 right away if you take too much PERCODAN (overdose).** When you first start taking PERCODAN, when your dose is changed, or if you take too much (overdose), serious or life-threatening breathing problems that can lead to death may occur. Talk to your healthcare provider about naloxone, a medicine for the emergency treatment of an opioid overdose.
- Taking PERCODAN with other opioid medicines, benzodiazepines, alcohol, or other central nervous system depressants (including street drugs) can cause severe drowsiness, decreased awareness, breathing problems, coma, and death.
- Never give anyone else your PERCODAN. They could die from taking it. Selling or giving away PERCODAN is against the law.
- Store PERCODAN securely, out of sight and reach of children, and in a location not accessible by others, including visitors to the home.

#### Do not take PERCODAN if you have:

- severe asthma, trouble breathing, or other lung problems.
- a bowel blockage or have narrowing of the stomach or intestines.

#### Before taking PERCODAN, tell your healthcare provider if you have a history of:

- head injury, seizures
- liver, kidney, thyroid problems
- problems urinating
- pancreas or gallbladder problems
- abuse of street or prescription drugs, alcohol addiction, opioid overdose, or mental health problems.

#### Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- notice your pain getting worse. If your pain gets worse after you take PERCODAN, do not take more of PERCODAN without first talking to your healthcare provider. Talk to your healthcare provider if the pain you have increases, if you feel more sensitive to pain, or if you have new pain after taking PERCODAN.
- **Are pregnant or planning to become pregnant.** Use of PERCODAN for an extended period of time during pregnancy can cause withdrawal symptoms in your newborn baby that could be life-threatening if not recognized and treated. Taking NSAID-containing products like PERCODAN at about 20 weeks of pregnancy or later may harm your unborn baby. If you need to take NSAIDs for more than 2 days when you are between 20 and 30 weeks of pregnancy, your healthcare provider may need to monitor the amount of fluid in your womb around your baby. **You should not take NSAIDs after about 30 weeks of pregnancy.**
- **are breastfeeding.** PERCODAN passes into breast milk and may harm your baby. Carefully observe infants for increased sleepiness (more than usual), breathing difficulties, or limpness. Seek immediate medical care if you notice these signs.
- **develop any type of rash or fever.** Contact your healthcare provider as soon as possible and stop taking PERCODAN.
- are living in a household where there are small children or someone who has abused street or prescription drugs.
- are taking prescription or over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, or herbal supplements. Taking PERCODAN with certain other medicines can cause serious side effects that could lead to death.

#### When taking PERCODAN:

- Do not change your dose. Take PERCODAN exactly as prescribed by your healthcare provider. Use the lowest dose possible for the shortest time needed. Take your prescribed dose at the same time

every day. Do not take more than your prescribed dose. If you miss a dose, take your next dose at your usual time.

- For acute (short-term) pain, you may only need to take PERCODAN for a few days. You may have some PERCODAN left over that you did not use. See disposal information at the bottom of this section for directions on how to safely throw away (dispose of) your unused PERCODAN.
- Take your prescribed dose [one tablet every six hours] as needed for pain. Do not take more than your prescribed dose. If you miss a dose, take your next dose at your usual time.
- Call your healthcare provider if the dose you are taking does not control your pain.
- If you have been taking PERCODAN regularly, do not stop taking PERCODAN without talking to your healthcare provider.
- Dispose of expired, unwanted, or unused PERCODAN by promptly flushing down the toilet, if a drug take-back option is not readily available. Visit [www.fda.gov/drugdisposal](http://www.fda.gov/drugdisposal) for additional information on disposal of unused medicines.

**While taking PERCODAN DO NOT:**

- Drive or operate heavy machinery, until you know how PERCODAN affects you. PERCODAN can make you sleepy, dizzy, or lightheaded.
- Drink alcohol or use prescription or over-the-counter medicines that contain alcohol. Using products containing alcohol during treatment with PERCODAN may cause you to overdose and die.

**The possible side effects of PERCODAN:**

- constipation, nausea, sleepiness, vomiting, tiredness, headache, dizziness, abdominal pain, rash, or fever. Call your healthcare provider if you have any of these symptoms and they are severe.

**Get emergency medical help or call 911 right away if you have:**

- trouble breathing, shortness of breath, fast heartbeat, chest pain, swelling of your face, tongue or throat, extreme drowsiness, light-headedness when changing positions, feeling faint, agitation, high body temperature, trouble walking, stiff muscles, or mental changes such as confusion.

These are not all the possible side effects of PERCODAN. Call your healthcare provider for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088. **For more information go to [dailymed.nlm.nih.gov](http://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov)**

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**This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.**

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