

ACTIVE LEARNING TEMPLATE: *Medication*

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MEDICATION Morphine Sulfate

REVIEW MODULE CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY CLASS Opioid Analgesic

**PURPOSE OF MEDICATION**

**Expected Pharmacological Action**

Binds to opioid receptors in the brain and spinal cord. Blocks emotional response to pain.

**Therapeutic Use**

Relieves moderate-severe pain, acute or chronic pain. Often used for postop or cancer pain.

**Complications**

Complications include respiratory depression, sedation, confusion, dizziness, N/V, urinary retention, bradycardia, hypotension, constipation.

**Medication Administration**

Adult: 2.5-10mg IV q2-6 hr and prn. 10-30mg PO q3-4 hr. Assess pain level and RR before admin. Hold if RR <12 breaths/min.

**Contraindications/Precautions**

Contraindicated in severe respiratory depression, asthma, and GI blockages. Precautions in older adults/elderly, hepatic or renal impairment, COPD, head injury, etc.

**Nursing Interventions**

Assess pain level, respiration rate, sedation level, GI functioning. Monitor vitals within one hour of admin and frequently assess respiratory rate and blood pressure.

**Interactions**

Interactions with other CNS depressants such as alcohol, benzos, antihistamines, muscle relaxants. They increase the effects of CNS depressants such as lower RR or sedation.

**Client Education**

Educate patient to take med as perscribed. Report any abnormalities such as extreme constipation, sedation, SOB, or continuous extreme pain. Avoid taking med with alcohol or other CNS depressants. Avoid operating any machinery (such as driving) until motor function is understood.

**Evaluation of Medication Effectiveness**

Patients pain will be relieved and they will verbalize a lower pain score. Patient will not exhibit severe respiratory depression or extreme sedation. Patient will be able to rest and maintain comfortability.