## ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE

### Tramadol

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<th>All WNHS Staff</th>
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<td>Scope (Area):</td>
<td>Obstetrics and Gynaecology</td>
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This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#).

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### Restrictions

- **Formulary: Restricted**
- **HIGH RISK Medication**⚠️

### Medication Class

- **Opioid analgesics**

### Presentation

- **Capsule:** Immediate Release 50mg
- **Tablet (12 hour Controlled Release):**
  - 50mg
  - 100mg
  - 150mg
  - 200mg
- **Ampoule:** 100mg/2mL

### Storage

Store at room temperature, below 25°C

- **Schedule 4 Restricted Medication**
## Dose

### Acute moderate to severe pain

**IM/IV:**
50–100 mg every 4–6 hours when required; maximum 600mg daily

**Oral (Immediate release):**
50–100 mg every 4–6 hours when required; maximum 400mg daily

**Oral (12 hour controlled release):**
50–200 mg every 12 hours; maximum 400mg daily

### Chronic severe pain

**Oral (12 hour controlled release):**
50–200 mg every 12 hours; maximum 400mg daily

### Post-operative Analgesia

**IV:**
Tramadol 100mg IV up to 10mL in NaCl 0.9%

**Note:**
Maximum dose 600mg in 24 hours for inpatients
Maximum dose 400mg in 24 hours at discharge
Maximum dose 300mg in 24 hours if >75 years

## Administration

Refer to the [Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook](#) for IM and IV administration instructions

**Oral**

With or without food
Swallowed whole for controlled release formulations

**IV Injection**

Inject slowly over 2 to 3 minutes

**IV Infusion** (preferred parenteral route)

**Step 1 Dilution:** Dilute with 50 - 100mL NaCl 0.9% or Glucose 5%

**Step 2 Administration:** Infuse over at least 15 minutes
Monitoring

Treatment with other drugs may increase the likelihood of serotonin toxicity; avoid combinations or monitor carefully (e.g. antidepressants, ondansetron)

**Signs of serotonin toxicity**

Hyporeflexia, tremor, clonus, incoordination, change in mental state, shivering, fever, diarrhoea

See ‘Breastfeeding’ for monitoring requirements of a baby with a mother taking tramadol while breastfeeding

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Consider alternative
2nd Trimester: Considered safe*
3rd Trimester: Considered safe*

*Occasional doses of tramadol are considered safe to use during the 2nd and 3rd trimester.

For more information, please contact KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service.

Breastfeeding

Tramadol is considered safe to use at the lowest effective doses for the shortest duration possible during breastfeeding. However, observe the breastfed infant for adverse effects such as sedation, poor feeding or sleeping pattern changes.

Comment

Refer to [Drug Interactions - Tramadol](#)

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

External Legislation, Standards and Policy (list and hyperlink)

*Check if existing higher level documents to avoid content duplication* - see DoH WA and National, NMHS policies, WNHS policies, ACSQHC, NSQHS, ACORN

WNHS Labour and Post-Operative Analgesia
WNHS Perioperative Preparation and Management
Palliative Care
Pain Management
Miscarriage
Restricted Schedule 4 (S4R) and Schedule 8 (S8) Medications
Guide to Obstetric Anaesthesia
References


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The health impact upon Aboriginal people has been considered, and where relevant incorporated and appropriately addressed in the development of this document (insert ISD Number). (Please refer to the Aboriginal Health Impact Statement and Declaration for Department of Health and Health Service Provider Guidelines – please delete once you have completed this).