

Costs of Selected Opioids

Weak Opioids

Opioid	Brand name	Cost per unit (tablet or patch)	Max. daily dose	Approx Monthly Cost ^a
Codeine 30 mg + Acetaminophen 300 mg + Caffeine 15 mg	Tylenol #3	0.09	12 tabs	32
Tramadol 37.5 mg + Acetaminophen 325 mg	Tramacet	0.77	8 tabs	181
	Generic (Apo)	0.63	8 tabs	150
Codeine IR	Generic	0.07 (30 mg)	600 mg	46
Codeine ER	Codeine Contin	1.30 (200 mg)	600 mg	117
Tramadol IR	Ultram	0.73 (50 mg)	400 mg	176
Tramadol CR (once daily)	Tridural	3.31 (300 mg)	300 mg	99
	Ralivia	3.41 (300 mg)	300 mg	102
	Zytram XL	4.34 (400 mg)	400 mg	130
Buprenorphine	Butrans	13.12/7 day patch (5 mcg/h)	20 mcg/h	187
		24.06/7 day patch (10 mcg/h)		
		43.73/7 day patch (20 mcg/h)		

^a Drug cost only (does not include fees or markup), calculated at manufacturer's maximum recommended daily dosage.

Strong Opioids

Opioid	Brand name	Cost per unit ^a	Cost per dose equivalent to 60 mg morphine/day	
			Daily dose	Approx Monthly Cost
Morphine IR	Generic	0.18 (10 mg tab)	@ 60 mg/day	32
Morphine CR	MS Contin	1.09 (30 mg tab)		65
	Generic	0.57 (30 mg tab)		34
Morphine ER	M-Eslon	0.54 (30 mg cap)		32
Hydromorphone IR	Dilaudid	0.15 (2 mg tab)	@ 12 mg/day	27
	Generic	0.14 (2 mg tab)		25
Hydromorphone CR (BID formulation)	Hydromorph Contin	1.06 (6 mg tab)		
Hydromorphone PR (24h formulation)	Jurnista	1.05 (4 mg tab)		95
Oxycodone IR	Generic	0.28 (10 mg tab)	@ 40 mg/day	34
Oxycodone CR	Oxycontin	1.41 (20 mg tab)		85
Oxycodone 5 mg + Acetaminophen 325 mg	Percocet	0.81 (325/5 mg tab)	@8 tablets/day (40 mg of oxycodone)	194
	Generic	0.13 (325/5 mg tab)		31
Fentanyl TD	Duragesic Mat	11.34 (25 µg/h patch)	1 patch/3 days 25 µg/hr	113
	Generic	5.95 (25 µg/h patch)		60

^a Median wholesale cost when more than 1 brand available. Costs do not include fees or markup.

IR = immediate release; ER = extended release; CR = controlled release; PR = prolonged release; TD = transdermal
Costs from McKesson August 1 2010

LEGEND	Value choice	Pharmacare exception status	Not covered by Pharmacare
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