

# **MORPHINE SULFATE INJECTION - CMI**

## **CONSUMER MEDICINE INFORMATION**

### **What is in this leaflet?**

This leaflet answers some common questions about the Morphine Sulfate Injection.

It does not contain all of the available information about Morphine Sulfate.

It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking Morphine Sulfate against the benefits he/she expects it will have.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine. You may need to read it again.

### **What is Morphine Sulfate Injection**

The name of your medicine is Morphine Sulfate Injection.

The active ingredient is called morphine sulfate.

Morphine sulfate belongs to a group of medicines called analgesics. It is an opioid analgesic, and it acts by blocking pain and your emotional response to pain.

Morphine Sulfate is available as an ampoule for injection.

### **What Morphine Sulfate is used for**

Morphine is most commonly used to treat moderate to severe pain.

In addition it is sometimes used just before or during an operation to help the anesthetic work better.

Your doctor, however, may have prescribed Morphine Sulfate for another purpose.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why Morphine Sulfate has been prescribed for you.

Morphine Sulfate Injection is available only with a doctor's prescription.

# **Before you use Morphine Sulfate Injection**

## **When you must not take it:**

If you are allergic to Morphine Sulfate or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction to Morphine Sulfate may include red, itchy skin rashes, difficulty breathing, hay fever, swelling of the face or throat or faintness.

Do not use Morphine Sulfate after the expiry date (EXP.) printed on the pack.

If you use it after the expiry date has passed, it may have no effect at all, or worse, there may be an entirely unexpected effect.

Do not purchase or use Morphine Sulfate if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

Do not use if the solution appears cloudy.

Morphine Sulfate is not recommended for use by pregnant women.

Morphine Sulfate is distributed to the breast milk so it is not recommended for nursing mothers.

Elderly patients are more likely to have less effective kidney or liver function due to age. This may increase the risk of side effects. You should discuss how much Morphine Sulfate to use with your doctor or pharmacist.

## **Before you start to use it:**

### **You must tell your doctor if you have any of the following:**

1. Allergies to any other medicines or any foods, dyes or preservatives, are about to have surgery under a general anesthetic.
3. Recently had biliary tract surgery
4. Bile duct disease or inflammation of the pancreas
5. An under active thyroid gland
6. Increased prostate size
7. Narrowing of the urinary tract

8. Stomach pains or constipation

9. Addison's disease (low activity of the adrenal gland)

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you use any Morphine Sulfate.

**Morphine Sulfate should not be taken in the presence of the following health problems:**

\* Liver disease, hepatitis

\* Kidney disease

\* Severe breathing problems such as asthma, bronchitis or emphysema

\* Inflammatory bowel disease

\* Irregular or rapid heart beats

\* Epilepsy (a disease that causes fits of convulsions)

\* Head injury or brain tumour

\* Alcoholism (or use of excessive amounts of alcohol)

\* undergoing treatment for depression with monoamine oxidase inhibitors eg. Parnate(r), Nardil(r), Aurorix(r) or within 14 days of stopping such treatment

*Taking other medicines*

*Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including medicines that you buy without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.*

*Some medicines may interfere with Morphine Sulfate.*

These include:

\* Medicines to help you sleep

\* Medicines to help relieve anxiety

\* Medicines to treat mental illness

\* Some medicines to treat depression

- \* Some medicines to relieve severe nausea and vomiting
- \* Some medicines for allergy
- \* Pain killers
- \* Medications for angina
- \* Drugs to reduce blood pressure
- \* Cimetidine (a medicine to treat reflux or stomach ulcer)

The above medicines may reduce the effectiveness of Morphine Sulfate, reduce its own effectiveness and/ or react with Morphine Sulfate resulting in untoward or sometimes dangerous side effects.

This list is not exhaustive. Your doctor or pharmacist has more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while using Morphine Sulfate.

## **How to use Morphine Sulfate**

### *a) How much to use*

The recommended doses of Morphine Sulfate are:

*Adults:* 10 to 20 mg by subcutaneous or intramuscular injection every four hours as necessary or as directed by your doctor.

*Children:* Subcutaneously, 100 to 200 mcg per kg bodyweight to a maximum of 15 mg per dose every four hours as necessary.

### *b) How to use it*

Except under unusual circumstances Morphine Sulfate Injection is administered by a health care professional. If self-administration is necessary your doctor will instruct you on how to do this.

### *c) How long to use it*

If pain persists, see your doctor.

Continue using Morphine Sulfate as long as your doctor recommends it.

Treatment with morphine should not be stopped abruptly without asking the doctor, as withdrawal effects may occur.

*d) If you forget to use it*

Use your dose as soon as you remember and then go back to taking it as you would normally.

Do not use a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.

If you are unsure about whether to use your next dose, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

Do not try to make up for missed doses by taking more than one dose at a time. This may increase the chance of you getting an unwanted effect.

If you have trouble remembering when to use your medicine, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

*If you take too much (Overdose):*

Immediately telephone your doctor or Poisons Information Centre (telephone 13 11 26) for advice, or go to casualty at your nearest hospital, if you think that you or anyone else may have used too much Morphine Sulfate. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. Also report any other medicine or alcohol (including any barbiturates or narcotics) which has been taken. You may need urgent medical attention.

Keep telephone numbers for these places handy

If you use too much Morphine Sulfate you may have symptoms of weakness, dizziness, lethargy, nausea, vomiting, sweating, mental confusion, slow or troubled breathing, loss of consciousness and very low blood pressure.

## **While you are using Morphine Sulfate**

*Things you must do:*

Use Morphine Sulfate Injections exactly as directed or as your doctor has prescribed.

Tell your doctor if you feel Morphine Sulfate is not helping your condition.

Visit your doctor regularly.

Your doctor needs to check your progress and see whether you need to keep taking Morphine Sulfate.

Always discuss with your doctor any problems or difficulties during or after using Morphine Sulfate.

If surgery of any type is planned, tell the doctor or dentist that you are taking morphine.

***Things you must not do:***

Do not use any other medicines while you are using Morphine Sulfate without first telling your doctor.

Do not drive or operate machinery while using Morphine Sulfate.

Morphine Sulfate may cause dizziness and/or drowsiness in some people and therefore may affect alertness.

Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if their symptoms seem similar to yours.

***Things to be careful of:***

Be careful drinking alcohol while using Morphine. If you drink alcohol, it could make some of the unwanted side effects of Morphine Sulfate worse.

Your doctor may suggest that you avoid alcohol completely or reduce the amount of alcohol you drink while you are using Morphine Sulfate.

Some people may experience side effects such as nausea, vomiting, constipation, drowsiness, dizziness, which may further affect the risk when driving or using dangerous machinery.

*Morphine can be addictive, but when it is used only to relieve or prevent pain it is unlikely to become habit forming.*

## **Side effects**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are using Morphine Sulfate.

Morphine Sulfate helps most people with medical conditions listed in the beginning of this leaflet, but it may have unwanted side effects in some people, especially in elderly patients or those with underlying disorders.

All medicines have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side effects.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist any questions you may have.

***Common Side Effects:***

***Tell your doctor if you notice any of the following and they worry you:***

- \* Rapid heartbeat
- \* Nausea (feeling sick)
- \* Constipation
- \* Dizziness
- \* Drowsiness
- \* Lethargy
- \* Vomiting
- \* Skin rashes
- \* Sweating
- \* Dry mouth
- \* Confusion
- \* Faintness

Some people may get other side effects of Morphine Sulfate.

Check with your doctor as soon as possible if you have any problems while using Morphine Sulfate even if you do not think the problems are connected with the medicine or are not listed in this leaflet.

## **After using Morphine Sulfate**

### ***Storage***

Keep it where children cannot reach it.

A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half meters above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

Keep Morphine Sulfate in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 30 degrees C and protect from light.

Do not store it, or any other medicines, in a bathroom or near a sink.

Do not leave it in the car or on windowsills.

Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

Do not use Morphine Sulfate if the ampoules do not look quite right.

### ***Disposal***

If your doctor tells you to stop using this medication OR it has passed its expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any left over.

## **Product description**

### ***a) What it looks like***

Morphine Sulfate Injections are labeled glass ampoules.

There are two strengths available: 10 mg/1 mL and 15 mg/ 1 mL in packs of 5 ampoules.

### ***b) Ingredients***

Morphine Sulfate Injection also contains the following inactive ingredients:

Sodium hydroxybenzoate, sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate,

Sodium metabisulfite, sodium hydroxide, hydrochloric acid,

Nitrogen and water - purified.

## **Sponsor**

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