## **Common Prescription Opioids**

Abstral

Actig

Duragesic

Fentora

Fentanyl (generic name)

Lazanda

Subsys

Hysingla ER

Zohydro ER

Hydrocodone Bitartrate

(generic)

Dilaudid

Dilaudid-HP

Exalgo

Hydromorphone (generic)

Demerol Meperidine (generic)

Dolophine

Methadone HCI (generic

Arymo ER

Duramorph

Infumorph

Kadian

MS Contin

Morphine Sulfate (generic)

Oxaydo

Oxycontin

Xtampza ER

Oxycodone (generic)

Opana

Nucynta

Oxymorphone HCI (generic)

Nucynta ER

Tapentadol HCI (generic)

Ultram

Conzip

Tramadol HCI (generic)

Tylenol w/Codeine #3

Tylenol w/Codeine #4

Codeine/APAP (generic)

Synalgos-DC

Dihydrocodeine/ASA/Caffeine

(generic)

Lortab Elixir

Norco

Vicodin

Vicodin ES

Vicodin HP

Hydrocodone/APAP (generic)

Reprexain

Vicoprofen

Hydrocodone/Ibuprofen (generic)

Percocet

Xartemis XR

Oxycodone HCI/APAP (generic)

Percodan

Oxycodone HCI/ASA (generic)

Belbuca

Butrans

Buprenex

Buprenorphine (generic)

**Butorphanol NS** 

Butorphanol (generic) Nalbuphine (generic)

**Key:** APAP = acetaminophen

ASA = aspirin

Not an inclusive list of medications and/or official indications. Please see drug monograph at www.eMPR.com and/or contact company for full drug labeling.

## What are opioids?

Opioids are a class of medications that include prescription drugs such as oxycodone (OxyContin, Percocet), hydrocodone (Norco, Vicodin), codeine, morphine (MS Contin, Kadian), fentanyl, methadone, and many others. Opioids also include illegal drugs such as heroin. Opioids can be pills, patches, liquids, or injectable medications. Opioids are used to treat moderate to severe pain that may not respond well to other pain medications. How are opioids used? In moderate doses, an opioid dulls the senses, relieves pain, and induces sleep, but in excessive doses can cause stupor, coma, convulsions and even death. Opioid medicines are often prescribed by health care professionals to treat pain. These medicines may be needed while you are in the hospital and also after you go home. How does an opioid work? Prescription opioids are chemicals that are similar to your own endorphins (an endorphin is the morphine-like chemicals produced by your body that helps diminish pain and creates positive feelings; the body's natural painkillers). They change the way the brain handles pain signals. Opioid medications act on opioid receptors in the spinal cord, gastrointestinal tract, and brain to reduce the intensity of pain perception. Opioids

also affect brain areas that control emotion, which can further diminish the effects of painful stimuli.

## What can I do to help?

Patients, family members and other caregivers can play an important role in the safe use of these medicines by becoming better informed and disposing of unused or expired medication properly.