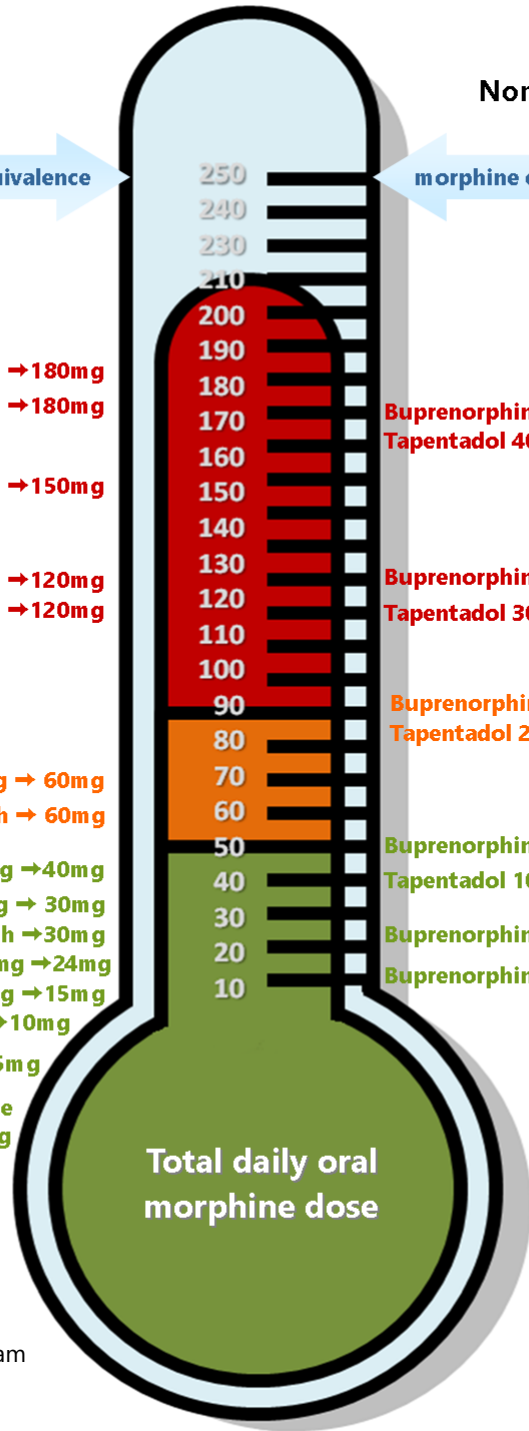


**Formulary Opioids**

**Non-Formulary Opioids**

opioid + strength → morphine equivalence

morphine equivalence ← opioid + strength



- Oxycodone 120mg → 180mg
- Fentanyl 75mcg/hr patch → 180mg
- Oxycodone 100mg → 150mg
- Fentanyl 50mcg/hr patch → 120mg
- Oxycodone 80mg → 120mg
- Oxycodone 40mg → 60mg
- Fentanyl 25mcg/hr patch → 60mg
- Tramadol 400mg → 40mg
- Oxycodone 20mg → 30mg
- Fentanyl 12mcg/hr patch → 30mg
- Codeine/Dihydrocodeine 240mg → 24mg
- Oxycodone 10mg → 15mg
- Tramadol 100mg → 10mg
- Oxycodone 5mg → 7.5mg
- Codeine/Dihydrocodeine 60mg → 6mg

- Buprenorphine 70mcg/hr patch → 168mg
- Tapentadol 400mg → 160mg
- Buprenorphine 52.5mcg/hr patch → 126mg
- Tapentadol 300mg → 120mg
- Buprenorphine 35mcg/hr patch → 84mg
- Tapentadol 200mg → 80mg
- Buprenorphine 20mcg/hr patch → 48mg
- Tapentadol 100mg → 40mg
- Buprenorphine 10mcg/hr patch → 24mg
- Buprenorphine 5mcg/hr patch → 12mg

**Total daily oral morphine dose**

# The Opioid Thermometer

(Oral and patch dosage forms)

To be used as a visual aid comparison rather than a set of definitive equivalences as published conversions vary. Please check the most recent BNF for current conversion guides.

Patient response to opioids can be variable as individual patients may metabolise different medications at different rates.

Morphine equivalences for transdermal opioid preparations have been approximated to allow comparison.

Total daily doses above this are not recommended due to increased risk of harm and little or no extra pain benefit. Pain specialist advice should be sought if dose increasing. Increased risk of harms and long term effects on the endocrine and immune systems and the potential for opioid induced hyperalgesia.

Total daily doses above this should be reviewed regularly to detect emerging risk of harms and review ongoing effectiveness. Harms can include: confusion, dizziness, fatigue, mood changes, depression, headache.

90mg

50mg

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livewellwithpain.co.uk  
**References :** SIGN 136 Management of chronic pain, NHS Fife Formulary, Faculty of Pain Medicine, [paindata.org](http://paindata.org)

