

Table 1d: Opioid Adverse Effects*

System	Adverse Effect	Prevalence	Increased Risk With:	Co-factors That Increase Effects
Central Nervous (CNS)	CNS depression Dependence Drowsiness, sedation – 60% Fatigue Headache Hyperesthesia Somnolence-29% Tolerance	> 10%	Alcohol abuse or dependence Drug abuse or dependence Increased intracranial pressure Mental illness Smoking	Barbiturates Benzodiazepines Cimetidine Dextroamphetamine Elderly Ethanol Head injury MAO inhibitors Multiple opioids
	Abnormal dreams Agitation Altered temp regulation Amblyopia Anxiety, confusion Depression	1-10%		High fat meals St. John's Wort Valerian Kava kava Gotu kola
	Dizziness, vertigo Flushing of face Hallucinations Insomnia Malaise Paresthesias, sensory changes Restlessness, seizures Thought abnormalities			
Cardiovascular	Postural hypotension QT prolongation	1-10%	CV disease Conduction defects	
Respiratory	Dyspnea Hiccups Respiratory depression	1-10%	Asthma COPD	
Dermatologic	Pruritus Rash	>10% 1-10%		
Gastrointestinal	Constipation-40% Nausea- 32% Abdominal pain Anorexia Biliary spasm Diarrhea Dyspepsia, gastritis Ileus Abnormal LFTs Vomiting Xerostomia	>10% 1-10%	Liver disease Pancreatitis	
	Genitourinary	Decreased urination Loss of libido Sexual dysfunction Ureteral spasms Urinary retention	Pregnancy Renal insufficiency Urethral stricture BPH	
Endocrine	Amenorrhea Decreased lactation SIADH		Hypothyroidism Addison's disease	
Neuromuscular	Back pain Weakness			