

Ms Contin (Morphine Sulfate) basics

Treats severe pain. Ms Contin (Morphine Sulfate) provides good long-term pain control without the need to take medicine frequently, but watch out for constipation.

What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.

	Hours	Days	Weeks	Months	Long term
Ms Contin (Morphine Sulfate) Drug effectiveness					
Possible side effects†					
Upset stomach					
Dizziness					
Sleepiness					
Constipation					
Physical dependence					
Difficulty breathing					

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- Opioid pain medicine that provides longer pain relief—up to 12 hours.
- Works best when taken regularly instead of as-needed.
- Especially useful for people with chronic pain problems.
- May not be the best choice for people who have never taken an opioid pain medicine because it lasts so long.
- Swallow it whole. Don't crush, chew, or split the medicine.
- Can make you dizzy or drowsy.

Risks and warnings

This drug carries significant risks, including addiction.

The FDA has identified these as possible serious or life-threatening risks with this medication.

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Death from lack of oxygen to the body (respiratory depression)

Taking too much Ms Contin (Morphine Sulfate) can cause irregular or slow breathing that can put you in a coma and can cause death. Ms Contin (Morphine Sulfate) should be swallowed whole, don't ever crush or chew. If your lips and fingers start turning blue from low oxygen, see a doctor immediately. In the hospital, doctors can give you a medicine that reverses the effects of Ms Contin (Morphine Sulfate). Don't take more than your doctor prescribes. Always check with your doctor before starting any new medicines or supplements.

Death from overdose

Even 1 dose of Ms Contin (Morphine Sulfate) can be too much for children. Keep the medicine out of reach from children. If you suspect your child has taken Ms Contin (Morphine Sulfate), watch for decreased activity, extreme tiredness, and lips and fingers turning blue from low oxygen. Go to a hospital immediately and the doctors can give a medicine that reverses the effects of Ms Contin (Morphine Sulfate) until the effects wear off.

Death in newborn babies from opioid withdrawal (Neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome)

Let your doctor know if you have used Ms Contin (Morphine Sulfate) during pregnancy. Your baby may need special care after birth from experts in this area.