KADIAN: a unique morphine long acting capsule

Date: March 14, 2018 | Site(s): VCH all sites

SITUATION/BACKGROUND:
Morphine long acting capsules are available in different formulations:
- KADIAN caps - 24 hour release formulation
- M-ESLON caps or MS CONTIN tabs – 12 hour release formulation
- KADIAN is used to treat patients with known Opioid Use Disorder and/or Chronic Pain.
- Although KADIAN is meant for ONCE daily dosing, sometimes it is dosed more frequently.

ACTION / RECOMMENDATION:
- Only a Pharmacist Physician or Nurse Practitioner can substitute or interchange KADIAN for another morphine product, which requires calculating the correct interchange dosing.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
- For more information contact your clinical educator or Pharmacist

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morphine (KADIAN) long acting capsules

**KADIAN**, a 24 hour release long acting morphine capsule, has been added to formulary. It is different from other long acting morphine products. M-ESLON, for example, is a 12 hour release formulation.

**How is KADIAN ordered?**

Prescribers ordering morphine (KADIAN) long acting capsules must:

- specify the BRAND NAME and/or
- indicate a 24 hour long acting formulation

**NOTE:** a clarification is required if either the BRAND name KADIAN or release formulation of 24 hours is not specified. These are both indicators for morphine (KADIAN) long acting capsules.

Prior to administration, verify the KADIAN nomenclature on:

- Medication packaging
- ADC (Omnicell) alerts (where in use)
- Medication Administration Record

**Case Study:** A patient was ordered morphine (KADIAN) long acting 100 mg capsule. The nurse administered morphine (M-ESLON) long acting instead of ordered morphine (KADIAN) long acting 100 mg capsule. The patient became drowsy. With investigation, the nurse realized that the patient received TWICE the intended dose of morphine!

**Why** did the patient receive TWICE the dose?

All 100 mg of morphine was released over a 12 hour period rather than the intended 24 hour period.

**Special administration instructions** are indicated for morphine capsules, including KADIAN, when prescribed for patients with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). The capsules must be opened and sprinkled over applesauce and patient ingestion must be witnessed by the nurse. The rationale behind sprinkling KADIAN is to avoid diversion; this practice is recommended in OUD treatment guidelines.

Please contact pharmacy dispensary should you have any questions.
morphine (KADIAN) long acting capsules

KADIAN, a 24 hour release long acting morphine capsule, has been added to formulary. It is different from other long acting morphine products. M-ESLON, for example, is a 12 hour release formulation.

How is KADIAN ordered?
Prescribers ordering morphine (KADIAN) long acting capsules must:
- specify the BRAND NAME and/or
- indicate a 24 hour long acting formulation

NOTE: a clarification is required if either the BRAND name KADIAN or release formulation of 24 hours is not specified. These are both indicators for morphine (KADIAN) long acting capsules.

Prior to administration, verify the KADIAN nomenclature on:
- Resident-specific medication labeling
- Medication packaging
- Medication Administration Record

Case Study: A resident was ordered morphine (KADIAN) long acting 100 mg capsule. The nurse administered morphine (M-ESLON) long acting instead of ordered morphine (KADIAN) long acting 100 mg capsule. The resident became drowsy. With investigation, the nurse realized that the resident received TWICE the intended dose of morphine!

Why did the resident receive TWICE the dose?
All 100 mg of morphine was released over a 12 hour period rather than the intended 24 hour period.

KADIAN is now the third line of treatment for persons with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). In some cases, capsules must be opened and sprinkled over applesauce. The rationale being to avoid diversion. KADIAN can also be prescribed for chronic pain.

Ensure you know why your resident is being ordered KADIAN, and if there are special administration instructions to be followed.

Please contact pharmacy dispensary should you have any questions.
morphine long acting capsule orders: know the risks

There are different formulations for long acting morphine capsules. For example:

- morphine (KADIAN) long acting 100 mg CAP
- morphine (M-ESLON) long acting 100 mg CAP

- KADIAN is released over 24 hours
- M-ESLON is released over 12 hours

How are these capsules ordered?

Prescribers ordering long acting morphine capsules must:

- specify the BRAND NAME and/or
- indicate a 24 hour long acting formulation or
- indicate a 12 hour long acting formulation

SAFETY TIP: A clarification is required if the BRAND name or the RELEASE formulation of the morphine long acting capsules is not specified on the order.

Long acting morphine can display/appear in different ways on the PharmaNet-based MedRec orders:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRAND</th>
<th>24H Formulation</th>
<th>12H Formulation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KADIAN</td>
<td>CAP24H PEL</td>
<td>M-ESLON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(AUG 19-29/2017) DAILY WITNESS INGESTION 1 CAPSULE (50MG) (ALONG WITH 3X100MG) 2017 Aug 20 Qty: 1 Discontinued ONS: 91/2355 [Max Daily Dose: 1 per Pharmacist]</td>
<td>CAP12H PEL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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KADIAN, a 24 hour release long acting morphine capsule, has been added to formulary. It is different from other long acting morphine products. M-ESLON, for example, is a 12 hour release formulation.

How is KADIAN ordered?

Prescribers ordering morphine KADIAN long acting capsules must:

- Specify the BRAND NAME and/or
- Indicate a 24 hour long acting formulation

NOTE: a clarification is required if the BRAND name KADIAN *OR* release duration/hours is not specified. These are both indicators for morphine (KADIAN) long acting capsules.

Prior to administration, verify the KADIAN nomenclature on:

- Medication packaging
- ADC (Omicell) alerts (where in use)
- Medication Administration Record

Case Study: A patient was ordered morphine (KADIAN) long acting 100mg capsule. The nurse administered morphine (M-ESLON) long acting instead of ordered morphine (KADIAN) long acting 100 mg capsule. The patient became drowsy. With investigation, the nurse realized that the patient received TWICE the intended dose of morphine!

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For more information contact:
Your local Professional Practice Lead or Pharmacy
Deb Halket, Regional Practice Lead-Medication Safety and Management @ Debra.Halket2@vch.ca
**morphine long acting capsule orders: know the risks**

*Site(s): All sites*

There are **different formulations** for long acting morphine capsules.

For example:

- **morphine (KADIAN) long acting 100 mg CAP**
  - KADIAN is released over 24 hours
- **morphine (M-ESLON) long acting 100 mg CAP**
  - M-ESLON is released over 12 hours

**How are these capsules ordered?**

Prescribers ordering long acting morphine capsules must:

- specify the BRAND NAME and/or
- indicate a 24 hour long acting formulation or
- indicate a 12 hour long acting formulation

**SAFETY TIP:** A clarification is required if the BRAND name or the RELEASE formulation of the morphine long acting capsules is not specified on the order.

Long acting morphine can display/appear in **different** ways on the **PharmaNet** MedRec Order form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>KADIAN</th>
<th>M-ESLON</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>KADIAN 100 mg CAPSULE</strong></td>
<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Morphine Sulfate 50 mg CAP24H PEL</strong></td>
<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Morphine Sulfate 15 mg CAP24H PEL</strong></td>
<td>[Image]</td>
<td>[Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Morphine Sulfate 30 mg TABLET ER</strong></td>
<td>[Image]</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Nomenclature for long acting morphine formulations will be consistent on:**

- ADC dispensing alerts, where available (to mitigate selection error)
- the medication packaging
- the Medication Administration Record (MAR)

Administering the wrong formulation (duration/hours of release) can cause significant harm to patients and could result in an overdose.

When selecting a morphine long acting capsule, **pay close attention**.

For more information contact:
Your local Professional Practice Lead or Pharmacy
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