

### 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.

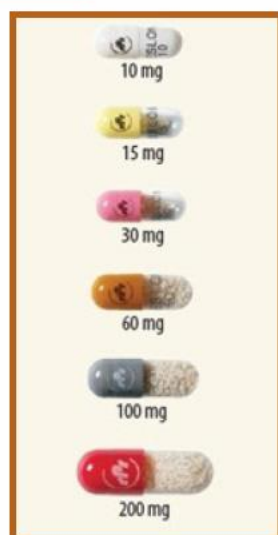
#### **KADIAN® 24 hour** **release formulation**



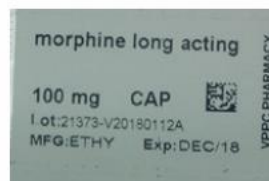
morphine (KADIAN)  
long acting capsules



#### **M-ESLON 12 hour** **release formulation**



morphine long acting  
capsules



- These products are **DIFFERENT**
- Nursing **MUST NOT SUBSTITUTE KADIAN®** for any other morphine product.

#### 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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# Medication Safety Huddle

## 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.



Sample  
medication  
package  
label

Prior to administration, verify the KADIAN nomenclature on:

- Medication packaging
- ADC (Omniceil) 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.



**KADIAN**



**M-ESLON**

**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.

# Medication Safety Huddle

## 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.



Sample  
medication  
package  
label

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**



**M-ESLON**

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.

# Medication Safety Huddle

## 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?

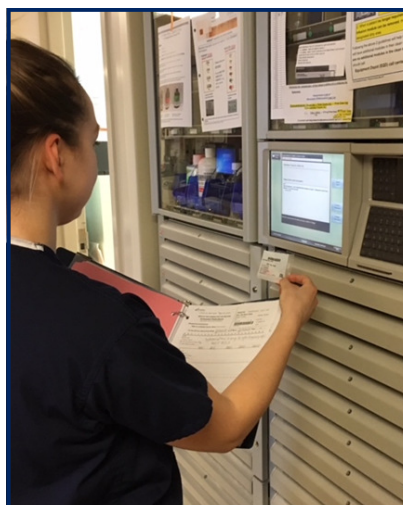
Prescribers ordering long acting morphine capsules must:

- 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.

Nomenclature for long acting morphine formulations will be consistent on:

- ADC dispensing alerts, where available (to mitigate selection error)
- medication packaging
- the medication administration record



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

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

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

### KADIAN

### M-ESLON

<p><b>MORPHINE SULFATE 50 MG CAP24H PEL</b></p> <p>(AUG 19-29/2017) DAILY WITNESS INGESTION ; 1 CAPSULE (50MG) (ALONG WITH 3 X100MG 2017 Aug 20 Qty: 1 Discontinued CPSID: 91/22593 (Max Daily Dose: 1 per PharmaNet)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Taking differently (specify): <input type="checkbox"/> per PharmaNet <input type="checkbox"/> No longer taking <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to verify Last taken at:</p>	<p><b>MORPHINE SULFATE 15 MG CAP12H PEL</b></p> <p>(FEB 16 TO MAR15,2018) TAKE 1 CAPSULE 3 TIMES DAILY . DAILY WITNESS INGESTION BY 2018 Feb 15 Qty: 39 Filled PSID: 91/10787 (Max Daily Dose: 3 per PharmaNet)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Taking differently (specify): <input type="checkbox"/> per PharmaNet <input type="checkbox"/> No longer taking <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to verify Last taken at:</p>
<p><b>Or</b></p> <p><b>KADIAN 100 MG CAPSULE</b></p> <p>DWI - SPRINKLE 4 CAPSULES ONCE DAILY WITH 2X20MG (TOTAL DOSE 440MG) (RX FROM DEC 2018 Jan 6 Qty: 4 Filled 91/11777 (Max Daily Dose: 4 per PharmaNet)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Taking differently (specify): <input type="checkbox"/> per PharmaNet <input type="checkbox"/> No longer taking <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to verify Last taken at:</p>	<p><b>OTHER</b></p> <p><b>MORPHINE SULFATE 30 MG TABLET ER</b></p> <p>TAKE 3 TABLETS THREE TIMES A DAY</p> <p>2018 Feb 5 Qty: 270 Filled ROSE CPSID: 91/32008 (Max Daily Dose: 9 per PharmaNet)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Taking differently (specify): <input type="checkbox"/> per PharmaNet <input type="checkbox"/> No longer taking <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to verify Last taken at:</p>

**Seek clarification!**  
**No BRAND name OR release duration**

Please contact pharmacy dispensary should you have any questions.

# Medication Safety Huddle

## morphine (KADIAN) long acting capsules

Site(s): All sites

Please Post

**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.



Sample  
medication  
package  
label

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 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!

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

All 100mg 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.

For more information contact:

Your local Professional Practice Lead or Pharmacy

Deb Halket, Regional Practice Lead-Medication Safety and Management @ [Debra.Halket2@vch.ca](mailto:Debra.Halket2@vch.ca)



# Medication Safety Huddle

## morphine long acting capsule orders: know the risks

**Site(s): All sites**

Please Post

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?

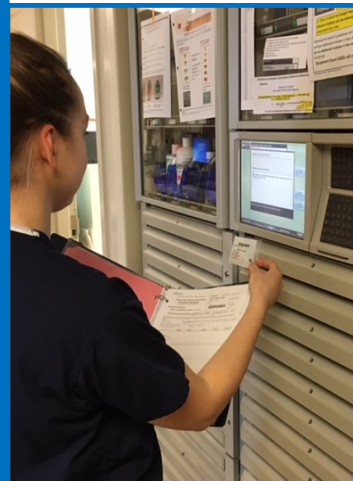
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- indicate a 24 hour long acting formulation or
- indicate a 12 hour long acting formulation

**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.

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.**

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

KADIAN	M-ESLON
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Seek Clarification: No Brand name  
\*OR\* duration/hours of release

For more information contact:

Your local Professional Practice Lead or Pharmacy

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