

IV, Intravenous; SC, subcutaneous.

From World Health Organization: *WHO guidelines on the pharmacological treatment of persisting pain in children with medical illnesses*, Geneva, 2012, World Health Organization.

**TABLE 5-7**

**Starting Dosages for Opioid Analgesics in Opioid-Naive Infants (1 Month to 1 Year Old)**

| Medicine  | Route of Administration  | Starting Dosage  |
|-----------|--------------------------|--|
| Morphine  | Oral (immediate release) | 80-200 mcg/kg every 4 h  |
|           | IV injection*            | 1 to 6 months old: 100 mcg/kg every 6 h  |
|           | SC injection             | 6 to 12 months old: 100 mcg/kg every 4 h (maximum: 2.5 mg/dose)  |
|           | IV infusion*             | 1 to 6 months old: Initial IV dose: 50 mcg/kg, then 10-30 mcg/kg/h<br>6 to 12 months old: Initial IV dose: 100-200 mcg/kg, then 20-30 mcg/kg/h |
|           | SC infusion              | 1 to 3 months old: 10 mcg/kg/h<br>3 to 12 months old: 20 mcg/kg/h  |
| Fentanyl† | IV injection             | 1-2 mcg/kg every 2-4 h‡  |
|           | IV infusion              | Initial IV dose 1-2 mcg/kg‡, then 0.5-1 mcg/kg/h   |
| Oxycodone | Oral (immediate release) | 50-125 mcg/kg every 4 h  |

\*Administer intravenous (IV) morphine slowly over at least 5 minutes.

†The IV doses of fentanyl for infants are based on acute pain management and sedation dosing information.

‡Administer IV fentanyl slowly over 3 to 5 minutes.

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## Coanalgesic Drugs

Several drugs, known as **coanalgesic drugs** or **adjuvant analgesics**, may be used alone or with opioids to control pain symptoms and opioid side effects (Table 5-8). Drugs frequently used to relieve anxiety, cause sedation, and provide amnesia are diazepam (Valium) and midazolam (Versed); however, these drugs are not analgesics and should be used to enhance the effects of analgesics, not as a substitute for analgesics. Other adjuvants include tricyclic antidepressants (e.g., amitriptyline, imipramine) and antiepileptics