

GLOSSARY

100 mm VAS (Visual Analogue Scale)	An assessment of pain intensity.
Abuse	Intentional use of the opioid for a nonmedical purpose, such as euphoria or altering one's state of consciousness.
Addiction	Pattern of continued use with experience of, or demonstrated potential for harm (e.g., impaired control over drug use, compulsive use, continued use despite harm, and craving).
Addison's disease	A rare illness marked by gradual, progressive failure of the adrenal glands and by insufficient production of steroid hormones.
Adrenocortical insufficiency	Abnormally low production of adrenal hormones, especially cortisol.
Agonist	In pharmacology, a drug that binds to the receptor and stimulates its function.
Amylase	Any of a class of enzymes that split or hydrolyze starch.
Anaphylactic shock	Rapidly developing systemic anaphylaxis that produces life-threatening acute airway obstruction followed by vascular collapse within minutes after exposure to an antigen.
Angioneurotic edema	A condition marked by the development of edematous areas of skin, mucous membranes, or internal organs.
Anti-emetic	An agent that prevents or relieves nausea and vomiting.
Asthenia	Lack or loss of strength.
AUC (area under the curve)	A measure of drug exposure that is calculated as the product of plasma drug concentration and time.
Biliary	Pertaining to bile.
Bioavailability	The rate and extent to which an active drug or metabolite enters the body, permitting access to the site of action.
Bronchospasm	An abnormal narrowing with partial obstruction of the lumen of the bronchi due to spasm of the peribronchial smooth muscle.
Chordotomy	Spinal cord section of lateral pathways to relieve intractable pain.
Clonidine	A centrally acting alpha-agonist drug used to treat hypertension and opiate withdrawal.
C _{max}	The maximum concentration of drug obtained in the plasma.
CNS depression	Slow down or reduction of brain activity.
Cor pulmonale	Hypertrophy or failure of the right ventricle resulting from disorders of the lungs, pulmonary vessels, chest wall, or respiratory control center.

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Crossover-design	Describes a clinical trial in which groups of participants receive two or more interventions in a particular order.
Cytochrome P450 3A4 (CYP3A4)	Cytochrome P450 enzymes are essential for the metabolism of many medicines and endogenous compounds. CYP3A4 contributes to bile acid detoxification, the termination of action of steroid hormones, and elimination of phytochemicals in food and the majority of medicines.
Delirium tremens	The most severe expression of alcohol withdrawal syndrome.
Depot	A place of storage, especially in the body, such as a fat depot or a drug depot.
Double-dummy	A type of masking in which two or more parties involved in the clinical trial do not know which participants have been assigned which interventions. Typically, the parties include the investigator and participants.
Erythema	Abnormal redness of the skin due to capillary congestion (as in inflammation).
Febrile	Pertaining to fever; feverish.
Flunitrazepam	A benzodiazepine with pharmacologic actions similar to those of diazepam that can cause anterograde amnesia.
Hepatic insufficiency	Inability of the liver to produce albumin, bile, or proteins, or to detoxify xenobiotics that are taken up by the gastrointestinal tract.
Hyperhidrosis	Generalized or localized excessive sweating.
Hypersensitive	Excessively and abnormally susceptible to a stimulus.
Hypnotic	Pertaining to or causing sleep.
Hypotensive	Characterized by or causing low blood pressure.
Ileus	Loss of bowel motility, occasionally resulting in intestinal obstruction.
INR (international normalized ratio)	A standardized measure of the clotting ability of blood based on the ratio of an individual's prothrombin time to the normal mean prothrombin time, used especially to monitor the risk of bleeding in patients receiving anticoagulant therapy.
Intracholedochal	Inside the common bile duct.
Ld ₅₀	The amount of a substance, bacterium, or toxin that will kill 50% of the animals exposed to it.
Lipophilic	Having a chemical affinity for fat or fatty acids.

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Misuse	Opioid use contrary to the directed or prescribed pattern of use, regardless of the presence or absence of harm or adverse effects.
Monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitor	MAOIs were the first class of antidepressants to be developed. MAOIs elevate the levels of norepinephrine, serotonin, and dopamine by inhibiting an enzyme called monoamine oxidase.
Myasthenia gravis	An autoimmune motor disorder marked by muscular fatigue that develops with repetitive muscle use and improves with rest or with the application of a cold pack.
Myxedema	1. Infiltration of the skin by mucopolysaccharides, which give it a waxy or coarsened appearance and create nonpitting edema. Myxedematous skin is seen particularly in patients with hypothyroidism. 2. The clinical and metabolic manifestations of hypothyroidism in adults, adolescents, and children.
Naloxone	A drug that is antagonistic to the actions of narcotics and opiates such as morphine, methadone, and opium.
Neonate	A newborn infant up to 1 month of age.
Neuroleptic	A medication to treat psychosis; a major tranquilizer.
Opioid	A family of drugs that act by attaching to endogenous mu, kappa and delta receptors in the brain and share a common set of clinical effects, including analgesia, sedation, constipation, and respiratory depression.
Opioid-responsive	Opioid responsiveness is the probability that adequate analgesia without intolerable and unmanageable side effects can be obtained during opioid dose titration.
Orthostatic syncope	Loss of consciousness and postural tone caused by diminished cerebral flow caused by standing upright.
Osteoarthritis	Arthritis typically with onset during middle or old age that is characterized by degenerative and sometimes hypertrophic changes in the bone and cartilage of one or more joints and a progressive wearing down of apposing joint surfaces with consequent distortion of joint position and is marked symptomatically especially by pain, swelling, and stiffness.
Overdose	An excessive and potentially toxic amount of a medication, given in error or taken intentionally.
Parallel-design	Describes a clinical trial in which two or more groups of participants receive different interventions.

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Partial agonist	A chemical or drug that stimulates a cellular receptor incompletely, producing a submaximal response in the cells it acts upon.
Phenothiazine	A class of major tranquilizers used to treat psychotic illnesses such as schizophrenia. They have neuroleptic and antiemetic effects.
Prn (pro re nata)	According to circumstances; as necessary.
Prostatic hypertrophy	A nonmalignant enlargement of the prostate gland caused by excessive growth of prostatic nodules.
QT interval	In an electrocardiogram, the interval of ventricular depolarization and repolarization, beginning with the QRS complex and ending with the T wave.
Rescue medication	A medicine administered to relieve an acute exacerbation of a condition that is normally controlled with prophylactic medicine.
Respiratory depression	A decrease in the ability to exhale and inhale. It is a common side effect of anesthetic, narcotic or sedative drugs.
Somnolence	The quality or state of being drowsy.
Sphincter of Oddi	A contracted region at the opening of the common bile duct into the duodenum at the papilla of Vater.
Status asthmaticus	Persistent and intractable asthma.
Surgical abdomen	An abnormal condition of the abdomen in which there is a sudden, abrupt onset of severe pain. It requires urgent evaluation and diagnosis because it may indicate a need for immediate surgical intervention.
Toxic psychosis	Psychosis brought on by intoxication.
Urethral stricture	Partial or complete narrowing of the urethra, occurring most commonly in men.
Vasomotor tone	Pertaining to the nerves that innervate the smooth muscle in the walls of arteries and veins and thereby alter or preserve vascular tone.
Ventilation	The movement of air into and out of the lungs.
Vesicle	A small blister-like elevation on the skin containing serous fluid.
Volume of distribution	A hypothetical volume of body fluid that would be required to dissolve the total amount of drug needed to achieve the same concentration as that found in the blood.
Warfarin	A synthetic coumarin anticoagulant, originally developed as a rodenticide. It is popularly but inaccurately called a blood thinner.