

## Name(s)

- **Generic:** hydrocodone / acetaminophen (*hye droe KOE done / a seet a MIN oh fen*)
- **Brand:** Norco, Vicodin, Lorcet, Lortab (elixir), Xodol

## Therapeutic Category

- Opioid + Analgesic

## Indication(s)

1. **Pain management, pain relief:** For severe pain that requires the use of an opioid after alternatives have been exhausted.
2. **Acute pain:** 3-7 days of treatment using the lowest effective dose.
3. **Chronic pain:** Used secondary to non-pharmacologic and non-opioid treatments.

## Dosage Form / Strength / Dosing

- **Dosage Forms:** Tablet, Solution, Elixir
  - **Tablet:** hydrocodone/APAP (mg) – 5/325, 7.5/325, 10/325, 5/300, 7.5/300, 10/300, \*2.5/325 (\*less common)
  - **Solution:** hydrocodone/APAP (mg/ml) – 7.5/325 /15 ml, 10/325 /15 ml
  - **Elixir:** hydrocodone/APAP (mg/ml) – 10/300 /15 ml (\*7% ethanol)
- **Dosing:** Adult & Geriatric
  - Individualized dosing.
  - Start low and titrate to dose based on analgesic response with minimal adverse effects.
  - Generally every 4-6 hour dosing as needed; Max dose limited by APAP ≤ 4g/day
  - Gradually taper patient's dose down if chronic use treatment is to end
- **Dosing:** Pediatric
  - Titrate to appropriate analgesic response; ≤ 75 mg/kg/day
  - Max 5 daily doses; APAP ≤ 4g/day

## Mechanism of Action & Pharmacology

- **Hydrocodone:** Pain perception altered through binding to opiate receptors located in the central nervous system (CNS). Overall CNS depressant.
  - **Excreted** in urine (26% of initial dose in 72 hours)
  - **Peak** serum in about 1 hour | **Half-Life** around 4 hours
- **Acetaminophen:** Speculated activation of the descending serotonergic inhibitory pathways in CNS and inhibition of hypothalamic heat-regulating center.

## Side Effects

- CNS depression, constipation, hypotension

## Drug Interactions

- **CNS Depressants and drugs that affect the CNS:** alcohol, benzodiazepines, amphetamines, anticholinergics
- CYP2D6, CYP3A4 metabolized drugs (inhibitors, inducers)

## Monitoring Parameters

- **Black Box Warning:** Addiction/abuse/misuse, hepatotoxicity
- Level of pain relief; Respiratory status; Mental status; Blood pressure; Bowel function

## Patient Counseling Information

- Drug used to ease pain; Common: Nausea, vomiting, headache, heartburn, dizziness, passing out, clammy skin

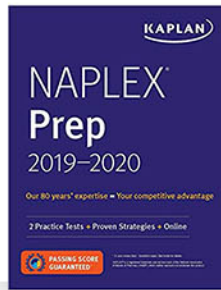
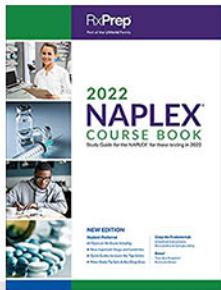
## Reference(s)

- <https://www.drugs.com/ppa/hydrocodone-and-acetaminophen.html>

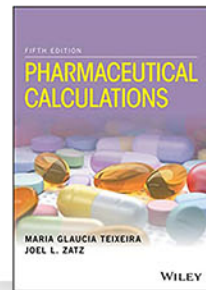
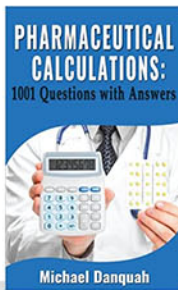
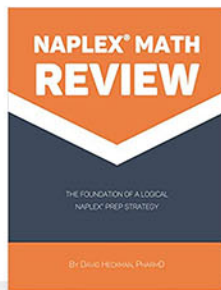
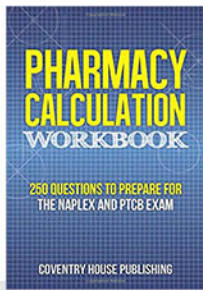


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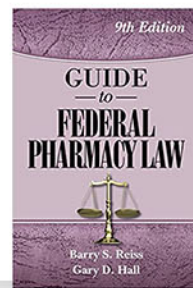
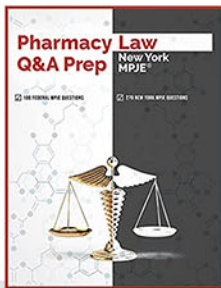
## Comprehensive (NAPLEX)



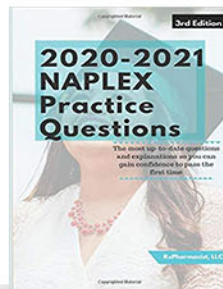
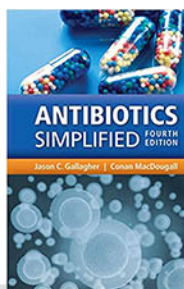
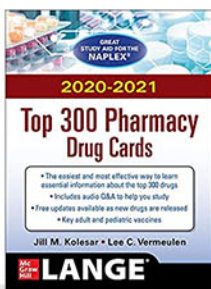
## Calculations (NAPLEX)



## Pharmacy Law (MPJE)



## Supplemental



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