

Supply issue: all strengths of morphine liquid (RA-Morph)

(Say 'mor-feen')

Morphine liquid is used for severe pain. From March 2024, all strengths (1 mg, 2 mg, 5 mg and 10 mg in 1 mL) of morphine liquid (RA-Morph) will be temporarily unavailable. To make sure you can continue to get pain relief, **Wockhardt morphine** or **Oramorph oral solution** will be supplied. The strength of these medicines is **2 mg in 1 mL**.

How are the two new morphine liquids different?

Wockhardt morphine and Oramorph oral solution are clear colourless to pale yellow. They work the same way as RA-Morph, but are only available in the **2 mg in 1 mL** strength. They also have different packaging.

<p>Temporarily unavailable</p>	<p>NEW: Wockhardt morphine and Oramorph oral solution</p> <p>Strength: 2 mg in 1 mL</p> <p>Note: Both bottles have 10 mg / 5 mL on the label. This is the same as 2 mg / 1 mL.</p>	
<p>All strengths of RA-Morph:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 mg in 1 mL 2 mg in 1 mL 5 mg in 1 mL 10 mg in 1 mL 		
	<p>Wockhardt morphine</p>	<p>Oramorph Oral Solution</p>

You may be given the medicine in a glass or brown plastic bottle.

Follow the dose on the label

- The amount of medicine you take may change.
- It's important you read the label on your bottle and check every dose.
- Always check with your pharmacist what strength you're on and what your new dose will be.



Oramorph oral solution contains alcohol

5 mL of medicine has the same amount of alcohol as 10 mL of beer or 4 mL of wine. It's unlikely to affect most adults or adolescents but may affect younger children.

If you're pregnant, breastfeeding or addicted to alcohol, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

Wockhardt morphine doesn't have alcohol in it.

The new brands aren't Medsafe approved

This doesn't mean they're unsafe. They're approved for use in other countries but haven't been through New Zealand's Medsafe approval process.



You'll need to see your doctor for a new prescription. Your doctor will ask for your consent before prescribing the new brands to you.

Measure the exact amount of liquid for each dose

- ✓ Always use a proper medicine cup, medicine spoon or medicine syringe. They have millilitre (mL) markings on them to help you measure the correct dose.
- ✗ Spoons from the kitchen are NOT accurate enough to measure medicine.

Taking too much morphine can be dangerous

If you think you've taken too much morphine, get medical help straight away. Morphine overdose is life threatening; it can cause you to stop breathing.

Symptoms of overdose include:

- feeling sleepy
- trouble breathing
- loss of consciousness (passed out).



If a person isn't breathing, or they're not responding to you, or you're worried about an overdose of morphine, get medical help straight away. Call 111 and ask for an ambulance.

For more information about morphine liquid, visit www.healthify.nz/morphine