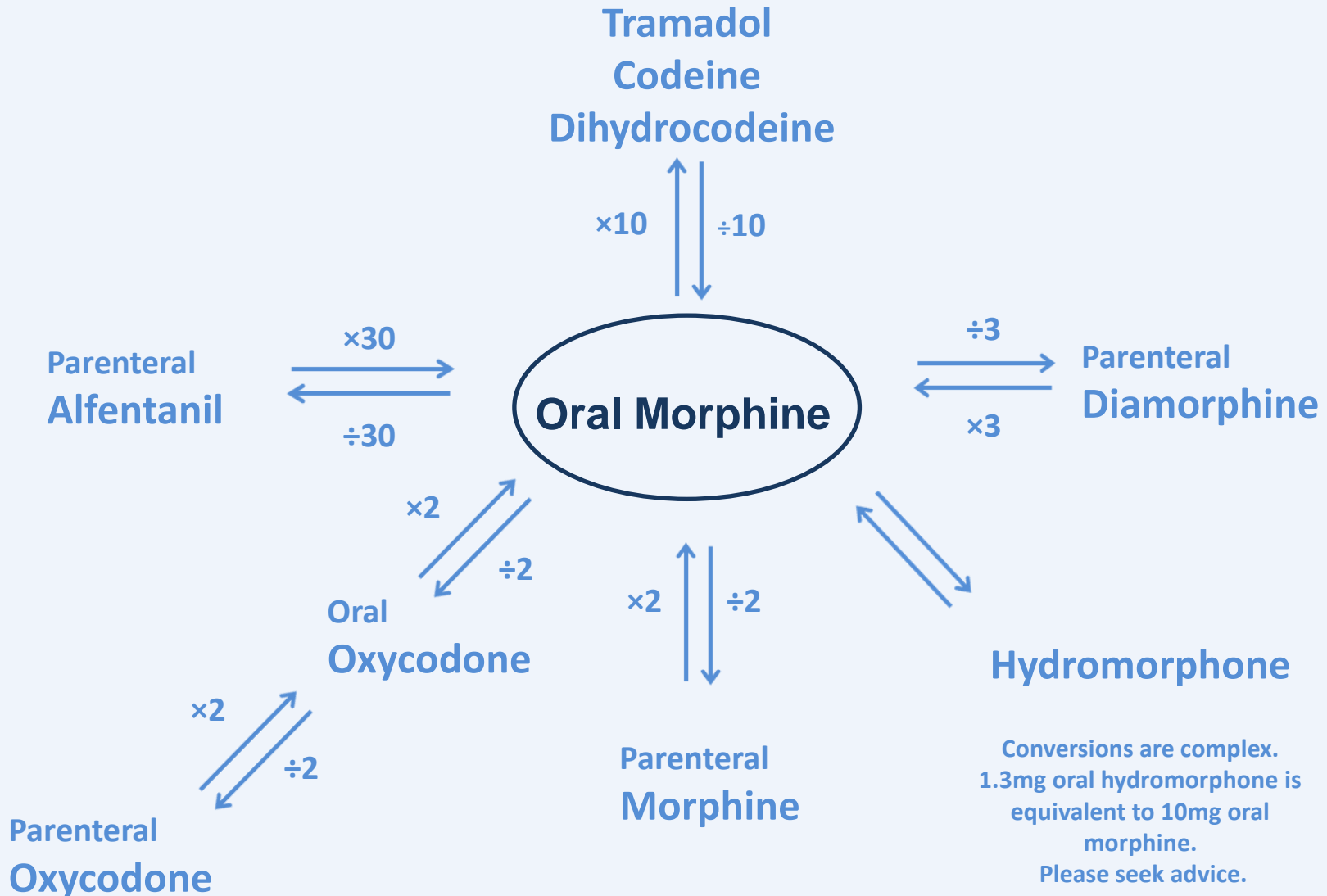


Opioid Conversion Calculator



Depending on age, comorbidities and prior side effects, consider reducing the dose of the new opioid by up to 33-50% when converting between strong opioids

Oral Morphine (mg/24 hours)	Buprenorphine Patch (mcg/hr)	Fentanyl Patch (mcg/hr)
10	5	-
20	10	-
30		12
40	20	-
60	-	25
120	-	50
180	-	75

Key points

- Morphine remains first-line opioid of choice
Exceptions: eGFR<30 or formal allergy
- Alfentanil (parenterally) or Fentanyl (transdermally) are the gold-standard opioid if eGFR<30 as least likely to accumulate and cause toxicity
- **TRANSDERMAL PATCHES:**
 - Doses received via transdermal patches are more variable conversions given are for the lowest guaranteed dose
 - Patches are NOT recommended in the context of unstable pain
 - At end of life – see palliative care guidelines on intranet for use of transdermal patches or contact the out of hours service via switch