

The 2007 Oxford league table of analgesic efficacy (at least 3 trials or 200 patients)

Numbers needed to treat are calculated for the proportion of patients with at least 50% pain relief over 4-6 hours compared with placebo in randomised, double-blind, single-dose studies in patients with moderate to severe pain. Drugs were oral, unless specified, and doses are milligrams. Shaded rows are intramuscular administration

Analgesic and dose (mg)	Number of patients in comparison	Percent with at least 50% pain relief	NNT	Lower confidence interval	Higher confidence interval
Etoricoxib 180/240	248	77	1.5	1.3	1.7
Etoricoxib 120	500	70	1.6	1.5	1.8
Diclofenac 100	545	69	1.8	1.6	2.1
Celecoxib 400	298	52	2.1	1.8	2.5
Paracetamol 1000 + Codeine 60	197	57	2.2	1.7	2.9
Rofecoxib 50	675	54	2.3	2.0	2.6
Aspirin 1200	279	61	2.4	1.9	3.2
Ibuprofen 400	5456	55	2.5	2.4	2.7
Oxycodone IR 10 + Paracetamol 650	315	66	2.6	2.0	3.5
Diclofenac 25	502	53	2.6	2.2	3.3
Ketorolac 10	790	50	2.6	2.3	3.1
Naproxen 400/440	197	51	2.7	2.1	4.0
Piroxicam 20	280	63	2.7	2.1	3.8
Lumiracoxib 400	370	48	2.7	2.2	3.5
Naproxen 500/550	784	52	2.7	2.3	3.3
Diclofenac 50	1296	57	2.7	2.4	3.1
Ibuprofen 200	3248	48	2.7	2.5	2.9
Pethidine 100 (intramuscular)	364	54	2.9	2.3	3.9
Tramadol 150	561	48	2.9	2.4	3.6
Morphine 10 (intramuscular)	946	50	2.9	2.6	3.6
Naproxen 200/220	202	45	3.4	2.4	5.8
Ketorolac 30 (intramuscular)	359	53	3.4	2.5	4.9
Paracetamol 500	561	61	3.5	2.2	13.3
Celecoxib 200	805	40	3.5	2.9	4.4
Ibuprofen 100	495	36	3.7	2.9	4.9
Paracetamol 1000	2759	46	3.8	3.4	4.4
Paracetamol 600/650 + Codeine 60	1123	42	4.2	3.4	5.3
Paracetamol 650 + Dextropropoxyphene (65 mg hydrochloride or 100 mg napsylate)	963	38	4.4	3.5	5.6
Aspirin 600/650	5061	38	4.4	4.0	4.9
Paracetamol 600/650	1886	38	4.6	3.9	5.5
Ibuprofen 50	316	32	4.7	3.3	8.0
Tramadol 100	882	30	4.8	3.8	6.1
Tramadol 75	563	32	5.3	3.9	8.2
Aspirin 650 + Codeine 60	598	25	5.3	4.1	7.4
Paracetamol 300 + Codeine 30	379	26	5.7	4.0	9.8
Tramadol 50	770	19	8.3	6.0	13.0
Codeine 60	1305	15	16.7	11.0	48.0
Placebo	>10,000	18	N/A	N/A	N/A