

CLINIC INFORMATION:

KADIAN®

for the treatment of
opioid use disorder



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WHO IS KADIAN® FOR?

Kadian®, also called slow-release oral morphine (SROM), is a long-acting medication that doctors prescribe to individuals who are seeking help for their unregulated opioid use, which includes drugs like fentanyl. It helps individuals stop using unregulated opioids and also alleviates the uncomfortable physical symptoms that occur when they stop taking opioids after long-term use. Additionally, Kadian® helps to reduce the strong urge to use opioids again.

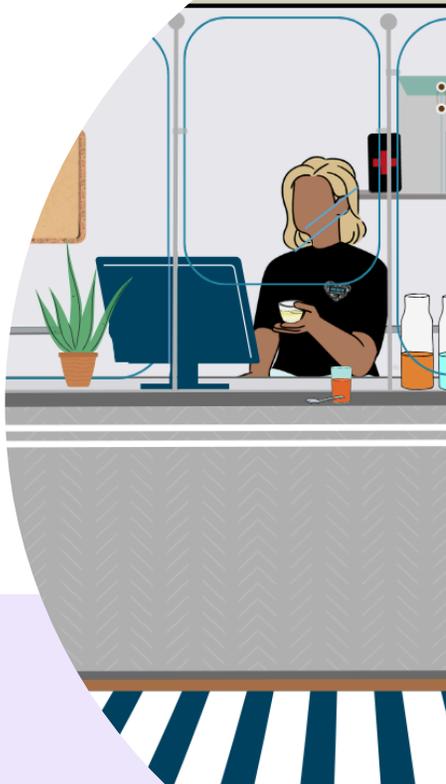
WHEN DO DOCTORS RECOMMEND KADIAN®?

For some individuals, buprenorphine medications (including Suboxone® or Sublocade®) or methadone might not be effective enough to ease someone's withdrawal symptoms and cravings.

HOW IS KADIAN® TAKEN?

Kadian® comes in a capsule that has small pellets inside it. A nurse or pharmacist usually opens the capsule and puts the pellets into a medicine cup. Then, you can swallow them with a glass of water. This way, you make sure to take the right amount of medicine. It is very important to swallow the Kadian® pellets whole.

Kadian® is typically recommended for once-daily use because its effects last for about 24 hours.



HOW SOON CAN DOSES INCREASE?

Kadian® is started at a low dose and then gradually increased. This gradual process allows for the assessment of side effects and tolerance. Your dose can usually be increased every 48 hours, as long as there are no side effects.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I MISS A DOSE?

Like other opioids, tolerance to Kadian® decreases if it is not taken daily. Missing several doses reduces tolerance, requiring a lower dose to avoid a poisoning.

If you stop taking Kadian®, withdrawal symptoms will develop.

ARE THERE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH KADIAN®?

Kadian® can be dangerous if taken with alcohol or other medications that make you sleepy. Crushing, chewing, or dissolving the pellets from the capsules can cause too much morphine to enter the body too quickly. This might make it hard to breathe and can be very serious or even deadly.

You should not share your Kadian® dose with anyone else. Your Kadian® dose is specific to you and can cause a poisoning if someone else takes it.

SIDE EFFECTS OF KADIAN®

Kadian® is usually safe to take, but it can cause side effects. It may slow down how fast food moves through your stomach and intestines, which can lead to constipation and stomach upset. Kadian® can also make your pupils smaller, cause dizziness, and lead to itching because it releases histamine. If you take Kadian® for a long time, your body might start to depend on it.