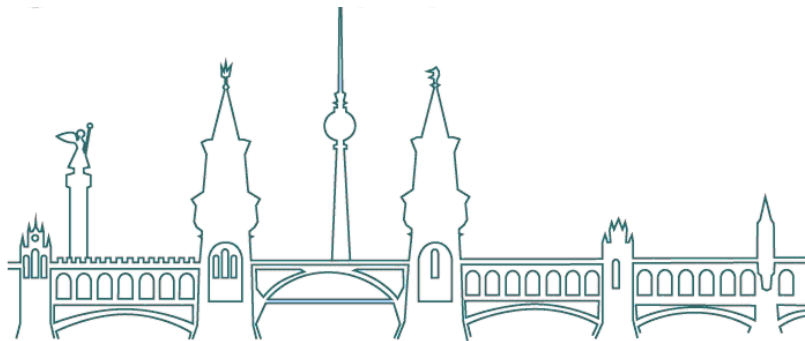


STAY INDEPENDENT!



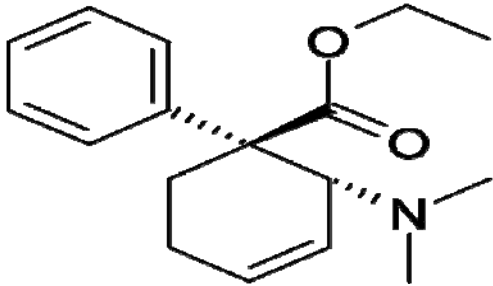
WWW.BERLIN-SUCHTPRAEVENTION.DE

Information about

Tilidin

What is Tilidin?

Tilidin is a synthetic opioid that is regularly used for treatment of severe to extreme pain e. g. therapy of cancer or post-operation treatment.



Bildquelle: <http://www.wikipedia.de>

In those brand-name drugs which are permitted today (e. g. Valoron®, Tilidura® and Tilidin comp®), Tilidin is always combined with an opioid “antagonist” naloxon (opponent that blocks the effect on the receptors).

Naloxon neutralises the effect of Tilidin if the medication is not dosed properly. Naloxon is therefore meant to prevent a possible misuse of drugs. Medication containing Tilidin is available as solution, as capsules or as sustained release tablets.

How does Tilidin work?

The effect of Tilidin is analgetic, it causes euphoria and decreases inhibitions. Effects appear 10 to 15 minutes after intake and continue approx. 4 to 6 hours.¹ The painkiller affects the central nervous system (spinal cord and brain) and prevents the pain signals from being sent to the brain. The sensitivity to pain is lowered. Due to the euphoric and

relaxative effect, fear and feelings of conflict are suppressed. The willingness to take bigger risks grows and the inhibition threshold of using violence is lowered.

The euphoric effects already appear at 25g to 50g.² The antagonist naloxon, which is taken in orally, only becomes active at higher doses³ and is therefore not providing reliable protection against misuse of medication. The anaesthetic effect of Tilidin compromises perception and judgement and makes you unfit to drive. Similar to other opioids, side effects such as nausea, vomiting or circulatory disturbance may occur. An overdose – particularly in combination with alcohol – can cause perilous apnea.



Bildquelle: <http://www.kwick.de>

Continued abuse of Tilidin can lead to mental and physical addiction and can cause strong mental changes like depression or delusional ideas.

Tilidin: A designer drug?

There have been startling reports in the media lately. However, detailed statistic figures about the circulation of Tilidin do not exist. The frequently assumed connection between the use of violence

¹ www.kompendium.ch

² www.drugcom.de

³ www.debeka-gesundheit.de

under the influence of Tilidin caused many concerns but has not yet been proven statistically.



Bildquelle: <http://www.inforadio.de>

The only data which provide facts about the misuse of Tilidin are the number of forged Tilidin prescriptions. Forged prescriptions increased from 2060 in 2005 to 2480 cases in the year 2007. 95% of all forged prescriptions were related to Tilidin medication.⁴

Experts have found that the misuse of Tilidin among male adolescents with Turkish or Arabic background is extraordinary high. The consumption of drugs is strongly prohibited in the Islamic religion. However, Tilidin is seen as a medication and therefore may be more widely accepted. Role conflicts and/or peer pressure are supposed to be the main reasons for the consumption of Tilidin.⁵ These adolescents may live in an environment of various conflicts such as insufficient school achievement, lack of education, feeling of failure, lack of acceptance on one hand and high demands on their manhood and the

⁴ Hrsg: Abgeordnetenhaus Berlin Drucksache 16/11 749

⁵ Ziemer, Marlene Therapieansätze für die Behandlung von Tilidin-Abhängigkeit bei jugendlichen Migranten in: Suchtmed 9 (3), 2007, S. 160

expectation that they will be able to feed a family in spite of these challenges on the other hand. Frequently these adolescents cannot cope with those challenges.

Legal aspects:

In section 3 of the Narcotics Law, Tilidin is listed as marketable and available on prescription only. That means that handling or prescription without permission is punishable by law. However, drugs combined with naloxon are subject only to simple prescription requirements and not to the regulation of the prescription liability for narcotics. Thus the possession of medication containing Tilidin is not punishable, only the illegal purchase or distribution (e. g.: by falsification of prescriptions, which is considered to be forgery of documents according to § 267 of the German criminal code). Thereby, the impression that Tilidin is just common medication is even intensified. It becomes all the more obvious that clarification is necessary because Tilidin is a narcotic – with all those described risks and side effects.

More information about where to get help in Berlin:

Special office for drug prevention in Berlin

Fachstelle für Suchtprävention
Mainzer Straße 23, 10247 Berlin

Fon: 030 - 29 35 26 15

Fax: 030 – 29 35 26 16

Email: Fachstelle.suchtpraevention@padev.de

Internet: www.berlin-suchtpraevention.de

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