

The 2007 Oxford league table of analgesic efficacy Oral combination analgesics

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	Number of patients in comparison	Percent with at least 50% pain relief	NNT	Lower confidence interval	Higher confidence interval
Paracetamol 1000 + codeine 60	197	57	2.2	1.7	2.9
Paracetamol 500 + oxycodone IR 5	150	60	2.2	1.7	3.2
Paracetamol 500 + oxycodone IR 10	315	66	2.6	2.0	3.5
Paracetamol 650 + tramadol 75	679	43	2.6	2.3	3.0
Paracetamol 1000 + oxycodone IR 10	83	67	2.7	1.7	5.6
Paracetamol 650 + tramadol 112	201	60	2.8	2.1	4.4
Paracetamol 1000 + oxycodone IR 5	78	55	3.8	2.1	20.0
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 650 + codeine 60	598	25	5.3	4.1	7.4
Paracetamol 325 + oxycodone IR 5	149	24	5.5	3.4	14.0
Paracetamol 300 + codeine 30	379	26	5.7	4.0	9.8