

[Open Peer Review on Qeios](#)

# Hydrocodone Bitartrate

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Hydrocodone Bitartrate*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C29099.

The bitartrate salt form of hydrocodone, a semisynthetic hydrogenated codeine derivative and opioid agonist with analgesic and antitussive effects. Hydrocodone primarily binds to and activates the mu-opioid receptor in the central nervous system (CNS). This leads to analgesia, euphoria, respiratory depression, miosis, decreased gastrointestinal motility, cough suppression and physical dependence. Hydrocodone is converted to hydromorphone by the cytochrome P450 enzyme CYP2D6.