

[Open Peer Review on Qeios](#)

Hydrocodone

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Hydrocodone*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C62033.

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.