



## CENTRAL NEW YORK EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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### Nubain Fact Sheet

#### **Nalbuphine hydrochloride**

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Nubain (Rx)

**Classification:** Narcotic agonist/antagonist

**Action/Kinetics:** Synthetic compound resembling oxymorphone and naloxone. Potent analgesic with both narcotic agonist and antagonist actions. Analgesic potency is approximately equal to that of morphine, while its antagonistic potency is approximately one-fourth that of nalorphine.

**Onset:** IV, 2-3 minutes; **Peak effect:** 30-60 minutes **Duration:** 3-6 hours

**Uses:** Moderate to severe pain. Preoperative analgesia, anesthesia adjunct, obstetric analgesia.

**Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity to drug. Children under 18 years.

**Special Concerns:** Safe use during pregnancy (except for delivery) and lactation not established. Use with caution in presence of head injuries and asthma, MI (if client is nauseous or vomiting), biliary tract surgery (may induce spasms of sphincter of Oddi), renal insufficiency. Clients dependent on narcotics may experience withdrawal symptoms.

**Additional Side Effects:** Even though nalbuphine is an agonist-antagonist, it may cause dependence and may precipitate withdrawal symptoms in an individual physically dependent on narcotics. *CNS:* Sedation is common. Crying, feelings of unreality, and other psychologic reactions. *GI:* Cramps, dry mouth, bitter taste, dyspepsia. *Skin:* Itching, burning, urticaria, sweaty, clammy skin. *Other:* Blurred vision, difficulty with speech, urinary frequency.

**Drug Interactions:** Concomitant use with CNS depressants, other narcotics, phenothiazines, may result in additive depressant effects.