ACTIONS AND USES
Hydrocodone bitartrate and acetaminophen tablets are indicated for the management of postoperative pain.

PHARMACOKINETICS
Hydrocodone bitartrate is a prodrug that is converted to its active metabolite, hydrocodone, in the liver (CYP3A4). The mean time to maximum serum concentration of hydrocodone was 4.3 ± 1.5 hours, and the mean plasma half-life was 3.5 ± 0.9 hours. Acetaminophen is rapidly absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract and is distributed throughout the body, with the highest concentrations in the liver, kidney, and plasma. The mean time to maximum serum concentration of acetaminophen was 2.2 ± 0.7 hours, and the mean plasma half-life was 2.7 ± 0.6 hours.

ADVERSE REACTIONS
The most common adverse reactions reported with hydrocodone bitartrate and acetaminophen tablets are nausea, constipation, and vomiting.

INTERACTIONS
Hydrocodone bitartrate and acetaminophen tablets may interact with a variety of other medications and herbal supplements. For example, hydrocodone may increase the risk of respiratory depression when used with other CNS depressants, such as benzodiazepines, alcohol, opioids, or other CNS depressants. Acetaminophen may also interact with other medications that cause liver toxicity, such as isoniazid or other antituberculosis agents.

DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION
Hydrocodone bitartrate and acetaminophen tablets should be administered orally. The usual adult dose is one or two tablets every 4 to 6 hours as needed for pain relief. The maximum daily dose is not recommended.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Hydrocodone bitartrate and acetaminophen tablets may cause dependence, addiction, and abuse. Patients should be advised to store their medications in a safe place and not to share them with others.

REFERENCES
Additional information can be found in the prescribing information for hydrocodone bitartrate and acetaminophen tablets, which is available from the manufacturer or from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's website.
null