

Situations where great caution should be used as regards opioid use:

- i. Respiratory problems: asthma, emphysema
- ii. Decreased blood volume (hypotension)
- iii. Biliary colic
- iv. Liver disease (increased bioavailability)*
- v. Impaired kidney function (accumulation of metabolites)*
- vi. Opioids may aggravate pre-existing convulsions in patients with convulsive disorders. If dosage is escalated substantially above recommended levels (because of tolerance) convulsions may occur in patients who have no previous history

*Opioids may have prolonged duration of action and possibly a cumulative effect in patients who have impaired liver or kidney function.