

HOPE HEALTHCARE and HOSPICE

Caregiver tips for

LIQUID ROXANOL™



When a patient is on HOPE Healthcare and Hospice services, our number one priority is managing the patient's symptoms and keeping them comfortable. One of the many ways to manage pain and shortness of breath throughout a patient's illness or at the end of life is with a medication known as Roxanol™.

Roxanol™ plays an essential role in decreasing the patient's fear and anxiety by dilating the bronchioles in the lungs, increasing the patient's oxygen capacity, and breathing with more ease.

Roxanol™ is a short-acting medication, which can be swallowed or placed under the tongue or inside the cheek. It will take effect approximately 15 minutes after it is administered and should be taken with food or beverages. The HOPE Healthcare and Hospice team will work with you and/or your family to manage all of your comfort needs.

Side Effects may include:

- **Constipation:** Ample intake of water or other liquids is encouraged. Stool softeners are encouraged to prevent constipation. If you have not had a bowel movement in 2-3 days, please contact your nurse.
- **Nausea, Vomiting, Stomach Pain** can occur at the start of Roxanol™; however, it should diminish in 1-2 days. If symptoms continue for more than one week, notify your hospice nurse.
- **Dizziness or lightheadedness:** Sit or lie down if you feel dizzy or lightheaded and remember to get up slowly from both positions.
- **Drowsiness** can occur when a patient begins taking Roxanol™, but this side effect should go away with in a few days. If symptoms continue or you feel too groggy or sleepy, contact your hospice nurse to adjust your dosage.
- **Dry Mouth** is very common and may be persistent. Good oral hygiene can help as well as saliva stimulants or artificial saliva replacement. Popsicles, hard candy, and mints are often helpful.

Questions or concerns about Liquid Roxanol™?

Call our hospice nurse at (337) 703-4674 or visit our website at www.hope-hospice.com.



Filling a Syringe from the Roxanol™ Bottle

| Dosage Forms & Strengths | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|--------|-------|
| 5mg | 10mg | 15mg | 20mg |
| 0.25ml | 0.5ml | 0.75ml | 1.0ml |

