

DICONAL (DIPIPNONE)

History	Synthetic. Became the drug of choice for many opiate users in the 1980s. Users enjoyed the buzz in addition to the downer effect. Linked with overdose deaths and lost popularity.
Street name	Dikies, pinkies.
Type	Downer, depressant.
Drug Effect	Painkiller and depressant (downer), anti-emetic (anti-sickness). Effects last 4-6 hours.
Dependency	Yes.
Description	Pink scored tablet.
Street use	Swallowed and injected.
Withdrawal	Similar to other opiates with flu-like symptoms for 5–10 days.
Long term use	Constipation, breathing difficulties, irregular periods. If injected it causes a sudden drop in blood pressure that can be fatal. In addition there can be circulatory problems, tissue damage, septic abscesses caused by the alkaline base of tablet, infection risk.
Overdose	If Diconal is injected there is a serious risk of overdose because of loss of blood pressure. Many overdose deaths among IV users involve Diconal.
Legal Status	Prescription only medicine. Class A, Schedule 2. N.B. High risk of overdose when injected intravenously (loss of blood pressure). Sub-cutaneous injection – doesn't have the same effect. Cyclizine is an anti-histamine that is the active ingredient of the travel sickness tablet Valoid. Cyclizine with methadone produces a similar effect to Diconal – use of this combination reported.