

TEMGESIC (BUPRENORPHINE)

History	Synthesised in 1980s and hailed as the first non-addictive opiate. Dissolved and injected by drug users in Glasgow. Currently used in detox. Not to be confused with Temazepam.
Street name	Tems, jimmies.
Type	Downer.
Drug Effect	Painkiller and depressant (downer). Effects last for about 6 hours. Temgesic on top of methadone can cause the user to go straight into withdrawal (it is a different type of opioid and will expel methadone from the opiate receptor sites).
Dependency	
Description	Small white tablets and ampoules.
Street use	Dissolved under tongue / sniffed / injected.
Withdrawal	Begins within a day of the last dose and include: tightness of chest, headaches, dry retching, and flu-like symptoms. Gradual withdrawal under medical supervision is recommended.
Long term use	Constipation, breathing difficulties, irregular periods. If injected there is a risk of infection and circulatory problems. Endocarditis.
Overdose	Causes less respiratory depression than heroin or methadone, but overdose is possible.
Legal Status	Prescription only medicine. Class C, Schedule 3.