

**TITLE 1:** “Ask the Doctor”

**TITLE 2:**

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**AUTHOR/S:** Anonymous

**KEYWORDS:**

- Pharmaceutical treatment
- Symptoms

**ABSTRACT OVERVIEW:** A question from a reader about the drug Talwin and the treatment of RLS symptoms.

**COPY OF ARTICLE:**

**Ask the Doctor**

**Q.** *I've seen conflicting information about the effects of Talwin on RLS symptoms. Some sources suggest that it can be useful in treating RLS, and others say it may worsen RLS and should be avoided. Which is correct?*



**A.** Talwin is a narcotic analgesic with two ingredients: pentazocine, a weak opioid agonist, and naloxone, a fairly strong opioid antagonist. Because these are opposing effects, first-time users may have improvement in their RLS symptoms following the use of Talwin, but chronic users who have developed a tolerance and are taking larger amounts may experience renewed symptoms. Therefore this drug is probably not a good choice for people with RLS.