

**A CARLAT PSYCHIATRY  
REFERENCE TABLE**

<b>The Many Varieties of Buprenorphine for Treating OUD</b>			
<b>Generic Name (Brand Name) Year FDA Approved (Rx status) [G] denotes generic availability</b>	<b>Formulation and Available Strengths (mg)</b>	<b>Usual Dosage Range (mg)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Buprenorphine (formerly Subutex) [G] 2002 (C-III)	Sublingual tablet: 2, 8	4–24 QD	Original mono version; very inexpensive and effective, but since it does not contain naloxone, it carries a higher risk of being ground up and injected.
Buprenorphine/naloxone [G] 2002 (C-III)	Sublingual tablet: Bup/Nx: 2/0.5, 8/2	4–24 QD	The first combination buprenorphine/naloxone agent. Long track record; inexpensive, but some complain about the taste.
Buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone) [G] 2010 (C-III)	Sublingual film: Bup/Nx: 2/0.5, 4/1, 8/2, 12/3	4–24 QD	Faster absorption than tablets; easy to taper gradually because film can be cut into small sizes. Packaging makes it more difficult for kids to open, but there may be more diversion potential because the films can easily be mailed. Relatively high cost, though generics are newly available.
Buprenorphine/naloxone (Cassipa) 2018 (C-III)	Sublingual film: Bup/Nx: 16/2	4–24 QD	The higher dose formulation offers convenience of fewer films for those on higher doses, but relatively higher cost.
Buprenorphine/naloxone (Bunavail) 2014 (C-III)	Buccal film: Bup/Nx: 2.1/0.3, 4.2/0.7, 6.3/1	2.1–12.6 QD	High bioavailability, fast absorption, less constipation; very high cost. More convenient than other preparations because it sticks to the cheek while dissolving, allowing patients to talk, but less dosing flexibility because cutting may decrease the medication's ability to stick to the cheek mucosa.
Buprenorphine/naloxone (Zubsolv) 2013 (C-III)	Sublingual tablet: Bup/Nx: 0.7/0.18, 1.4/0.36, 2.9/0.71, 5.7/1.4, 8.6/2.1, 11.4/2.9	2.9–17.2 QD	Menthol flavor; higher bioavailability than generics, but also higher cost.
Buprenorphine implant (Probuphine) 2016 (C-III)	Rods implanted subdermally in the upper arm; each rod contains 74.2 mg of buprenorphine	Rods release the equivalent of 320 mg of buprenorphine over 6 months	Provides coverage for up to 6 months; consistent dosing; good bioavailability, but invasive, as it requires surgical implantation that may lead to scarring. Appropriate only for stable patients maintained on buprenorphine 8 mg/day or lower. Used for up to 6 months only; expensive.
Extended release buprenorphine (Sublocade) 2017 (C-III)	Injection: 100 mg/0.5 mL and 300 mg/1.5 mL provided in a prefilled syringe with a 19-gauge 5/8-inch needle	2 monthly initial doses of 300 mg followed by 100 mg monthly maintenance doses	Once-a-month subcutaneous injection provides a controlled dose with no need for daily maintenance and reduces risk of misuse, accidental ingestion, and diversion; however, it is substantially more expensive than traditional sublingual applications.
<small>Buprenorphine/naloxone products are not bioequivalent. Comparable brand-name doses: 8mg/2 mg SL film = 5.7 mg/1.4 mg SL tab = 4.2 mg/0.7 mg buccal film. The brand-name SL film is equivalent to generic tablets. Buprenorphine implant is equivalent to 8 mg or less daily SL films. Extended release buprenorphine dosed 300/300/100 mg is equivalent to around 16 mg–24 mg daily SL films, and dosed 300/300/300 mg is equivalent to around 24 mg–32 mg daily SL films.</small>			

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