

**Agents Used in Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opioid Addiction**

Generic Name (Brand Name) Year FDA Approved (Rx status) <i>[G]</i> denotes generic availability	Formulation and Available Strengths (mg)	Usual Dosage Range (mg)	Advantages/Disadvantages
Buprenorphine (formerly Subutex) [G] 2002 (C-III)	Sublingual tablets: 2, 8	4–24 QD	Advantages: Original mono version; has a long track record; very inexpensive. Many experts find it to be just as effective as agents that include naloxone.  Disadvantage: Since it does not contain naloxone, can be ground up and injected.
Buprenorphine and naloxone [G] 2002 (C-III)	Sublingual tablets: Bup 2/Nx 0.5, 8/2	4–24 QD	Advantages: First combination buprenorphine/naloxone agent. Long track record; inexpensive.  Disadvantage: Some complain about the taste.
Buprenorphine and naloxone (Suboxone) [G] 2010 (C-III)	Sublingual strips: Bup 2/Nx 0.5, 4/1, 8/2, 12/3	4–24 QD	Advantages: 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.  Disadvantages: More diversion potential because you can easily mail the strips; relatively high cost.
Buprenorphine and naloxone (Bunavail) 2014 (C-III)	Buccal film: Bup 2.1/Nx 0.3, 4.2/0.7, 6.3/1	2.1–12.6 QD	Advantages: High bioavailability, fast absorption, less constipation; more convenient than other preparations because it sticks to the cheek while dissolving, allowing patients to talk.  Disadvantages: Very high cost; may be more difficult to cut than Suboxone film, because cutting may decrease its sticking ability to cheek mucosa.
Buprenorphine and naloxone (Zubsolv) 2013 (C-III)	Sublingual tablets: Bup 1.4/Nx 0.36, 2.9/0.71, 5.7/1.4, 8.6/2.1, 11.4/2.9	2.9–17.2 QD	Advantages: Menthol flavor; higher bioavailability than generics.  Disadvantage: Higher cost than generics.
Methadone [G] (Dolophine, Methadose) 1947 (C-II)	Oral tablets: 5, 10, 40 Oral liquid: 10 mg/mL, 10 mg/5 mL, 5 mg/5 mL	20–120 QD	Advantages: Long track record; daily dosing requirement may be good for those needing closer supervision.  Disadvantages: Daily dosing is inconvenient for those with job or family duties; many drug interactions; high risk of respiratory depression.
Naltrexone ER (Vivitrol) 2006 (Rx)	IM injection: 380	380 Q 4wk	Advantages: Monthly injection decreases worries about compliance; beneficial for alcohol use disorder.  Disadvantages: Shot can be painful; patients may not return for repeat injections; patients must go through longer period of withdrawal before starting treatment.

Buprenorphine/naloxone products are not bioequivalent. Comparable doses: 2mg/0.5 mg SL strip = 1.4 mg/0.36 mg SL tab; 4 mg/1 mg SL strip = 2.1 mg/0.3 mg buccal film; 8 mg/2mg SL strip = 4.2 mg/0.7 mg buccal film or 5.7 mg/1.4 mg SL tab; 12 mg/3 mg SL strip = 6.3 mg/1 mg buccal film