

Treatment Strategies for Opioid Withdrawal			
	Medication	Dosing	Treatment Considerations
Opioid Agonist	Buprenorphine/naloxone	Up to 8 mg in divided doses day 1 Up to 16 mg day 2 Up to 24 mg day 3	Start at COWS $\geq$ 8
	Methadone	< 30 mg first dose, then up to 10 mg more	Patient must be alert Inpatient setting QTc prolongation
Symptomatic Treatment	Clonidine	0.1 mg q4h PRN Hold for SBP < 90, DBP < 60 Total: < 0.8 mg daily	Dysautonomia Check orthostatics Can use patch after 3 days Generic
	Lofexidine	0.2–0.4 mg q6–12h PRN	Dysautonomia Check orthostatics FDA approved for opioid withdrawal Expensive
	Loperamide	2 mg q2h PRN, NTE 16 mg/day	Diarrhea QTc prolongation
	Ondansetron	4–8 mg q4–6h PRN	Nausea QTc prolongation
	Dicyclomine	20 mg q6h PRN	Stomach cramps
	Methocarbamol	750 mg q6h PRN	Muscle cramps
	Ibuprofen	400–600 mg q8h PRN	Pain Caution in renal impairment
	Gabapentin	100–300 mg TID	Pain, anxiety Caution in renal impairment
	Chlordiazepoxide (or other benzos)	10–25 mg q6h PRN	Anxiety, agitation
	Hydroxyzine	12.5–50 mg TID PRN	Anxiety, agitation
	Trazodone	50–200 mg qHS PRN	Insomnia

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