

Adapting Pharmacologic Treatment to the Evolving Face of Opioid Use Disorder

Christine Rarrick, PharmD, MBA, BCPS, BCPP Clinical Pharmacy Specialist—Psychiatry MUSC Health

Disclosures & CME Credit

- Neither the case presenter nor the didactic presenter have conflicts of interest
- Off label use of medications may be discussed
- Project ECHO is supported through funding from the SC State Targeted Response Grant (MUSC-STR-17) through the 21st Century Cures Act (TI080221).

The Medical University of South Carolina designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

The Medical University of South Carolina is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

In accordance with the ACCME Essentials & Standards, anyone involved in planning or presenting this educational activity will be required to disclose any relevant financial relationships with commercial interests in the health care industry. This information is listed below. Speakers who incorporate information about off-label or investigational use of drugs or devices will be asked to disclose that information at the beginning of their presentation.

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Options

Pharmacologic Options

Needle

- Methadone

- Naltrexone

Long-acting intramuscular injection (Vivitrol®) • Buprenorphine

Sublingual products (Suboxone®, Zubsolv®)

Subdermal Implant (Probuphine®)

Long-acting subcutaneous injection [?](#)

RBP-6000 (Sublocade®)

CAM2038 (Brixadi™) Benefits of Long-Acting Injectables (LAI)

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6541a5.htm?s_cid=mm6541a5_w

Naltrexone

Vivitrol®

Product Information

Naltrexone: opioid antagonist with high μ -receptor affinity

Reversible inhibition Minimizes euphoric effects if opioids are used Reduces opioid cravings

No CYP involvement Long-acting injectable: intramuscular administration every 4 weeks

380-mg solution in microsphere formulation Gluteal injection site

Elimination half-life 5 to 10 days post injection Vivitrol® [Package Insert]

Evidence for Use

Design

Open-label, active-comparison, multicenter, 24-week RCT

Interventions

Extended-release naltrexone (XR-NTX)

Sublingual buprenorphine (BUP-NX)

Primary Endpoint

Rate of relapse free survival

Secondary Endpoints

Failure to initiate treatment

Opioid use during treatment

Opioid craving

Safety

Inclusion Criteria

18 years or older

DSM5 criteria for OUD

Opioid use within previous 30 days

ExclusionCriteria

Serious medical or mental health disorders

Comorbid substance use disorders

PatientCharacteristics

570 patients

Average age 33 years

Majority intravenous heroin use

Lancet2018;391:309-18

Outcomes

- Similar completion rate²

62% XR-NTX vs 67% BUP-NX • Significantly higher drop out during XR-NTX initiation²

Early randomization reduced successful initiation • Overall lower relapse with BUP-NX²

HR 1.36 (95% CI 1.1 to 1.68)

Non-significant when controlling for successful initiation • Both treatments reduced craving

- Minimal adverse events RBP-6000

Sublocade®

Product Information

Buprenorphine: partial opioid agonist with high μ -receptor affinity

Reduces withdrawal & cravings

CYP3A4 metabolism

80 to 95% μ -receptors are bound at a dose of 16 mg sublingually
RBP-6000: subcutaneous injection administered every 4 weeks

Atrigel® forms polymer on contact with bodily fluids -

Risk of thrombosis if injected into vein

Forms palpable deposit in abdominal tissue that degrade over time

REMS required for pharmacies & providers
Pharmacokinetic modeling suggests 200 mg achieves $\geq 70\%$ receptor blockade

Recommend two 300-mg loading doses, followed by 100 mg monthly
Buprenorphine [Package Insert]

Sublocade® [Package Insert]

Clin Pharmacokinet 2014;53:813-24

Evidence for Use

Design

Double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter, 24-week RCT

Active Interventions

6 once-monthly 300 mg injections (n=203)

2 once-monthly 300 mg injections followed by four 100 mg injections (n=201)

Primary Endpoint

Negative UDS and self-reports of illicit opioid use

Secondary Endpoints

Rate of treatment success ($\geq 80\%$ negative UDS during weeks 5-24)

Reported opioid cravings

Adverse Events

Inclusion Criteria

DSM5 criteria for moderate to severe OUD for at least 3 months

Treatment seeking

BMI ≥ 18 and ≤ 35 kg/m²

Exclusion Criteria

Moderate to severe cocaine, cannabis, or alcohol use disorder

Patient Characteristics

504 patients randomized

Average age 40 years

40% injecting opioids

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02357901>

- Improved treatment retention
- Reduced self-reported opioid use, positive UDS, & self-reported opioid craving
- Clinical liver enzyme elevation: 12.4% of higher dose buprenorphine
- Gastrointestinal side effects most commonly reported
- 25-week extension study lost 42 of participants
1 patient dropped out due to adverse event

29 withdrew or lost to follow-up Sublocade® [Package Insert]

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02357901>

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/results/NCT02896296?term=rbp6000&rank=3>

CAM2038

Brixadi™

Product Information

Weekly and monthly formulations available

Pharmacokinetic equivalency • FluidCrystal® depot forms a crystalline gel for slow dissolution²

Recommended administration in abdomen, arm, thigh, or buttock

Evidence for Use

Design

Double-blind, double-dummy, active-controlled, multicenter, 24-week RCT

Active Interventions

12 weekly subcutaneous (SQ) injections followed by 3 monthly injections (n=213)

Sublingual (SL) buprenorphine/naloxone (n=215)

Primary Endpoint

Percentage negative UDS

Responder rate defined as no opiate use at specified time points

Secondary Endpoints

Study retention

“Need-to-use” visual analog scale

Opioid withdrawal

Inclusion Criteria

Moderate to severe OUD

Exclusion Criteria

Pharmacologic therapy for OUD within 60 days

Recent or current suicidal ideation

Patient Characteristics

428 participants randomized

Predominantly men, average age 38.4 years

Average opiate use 4 years, predominantly using heroin

JAMA IntMed2018; 178(6):764-73 JAMA IntMed2018; 178(6):764-73

- No difference in 28-week study retention
- No difference in withdrawal symptoms
- No difference in reported cravings
- Injection-site pain most commonly reported JAMA IntMed2018; 178(6):764-73

Outcomes Evidence for Use—Extension Study

Design

Open-label, multicenter, 48-week study

Active Interventions

Weekly or monthly SQ buprenorphine

Primary Endpoint

Long-term safety and tolerability

Secondary Endpoints

Illicit opioid use

Retention in treatment

Inclusion Criteria

Moderate to severe OUD

Exclusion Criteria

Comorbid substance use disorder

Recent or current suicidal ideation

Patient Characteristics

227 participants randomized

Predominantly men, average age 41.4 years

Average opiate use 14.8 years, predominantly using heroin

Addiction, 2019; 114(8):1416-1426Addiction, 2019; 114(8):1416-1426

Dosing Results

Mean duration of exposure: 39.1 weeks (SD 16.2) N= 227

Weekly

75 (33%)

25 (67.6%)

50 (26.3%)

Monthly

77 (33.9%)

N/A

77 (40.5%)

Combination

75 (33%)

12 (32.4%)

63 (33.2%)

Addiction, 2019; 114(8):1416-1426

Safety and Efficacy Endpoint

- Treatment emergent adverse events (TEADEs):

143 (63%) reported at least one TEADE

60 of these (26.4%) considered to be drug related

Pain, swelling/erythema most common (19.8%)

Headache 7.9%

Nausea 7.0%

Vomiting 5.3% • Retention

188 (82.8%) completing 24 weeks

167 (73.6%) completing treatment period *Addiction*, 2019; 114(8):1416-1426

Opioid Negative UDS References

American Psychiatric Association 2013. *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5th ed.). Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Publishing.

Buprenorphine [Package Insert]

Cicero TJ et al. The changing face of heroin use in the United States: a retrospective analysis of the past 50 years. *JAMA Psychiatry* 2014;71(7):821-6

Frost M, Bailey GJ, Lintzeris N, et al. Long-term safety of weekly and monthly subcutaneous buprenorphine

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6541a5.htm?s_cid=mm6541a5_w

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02357901>

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?cond=&term=buprenorphine&cntry=&state=&city=&dist>

<http://justplainkillers.com/data/>

Kapman K et al. American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM): National practice guideline for the use of medications in the treatment of addiction involving opioid use. *J Addict Med* 2015;9(5):358-67

Lee J, et al. Comparative effectiveness of extended-release naltrexone versus buprenorphine-naloxone for opioid relapse prevention (X:BOT): a multicentre, open-label, randomised controlled trial. *Lancet*. 2018;391:309-18.

Nasser, et al. A population pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic modeling approach to support clinical development of RBP-6000, a new, subcutaneously injectable, long-acting, sustained-release formulation of buprenorphine, for the treatment of opioid dependence. *Clinical Pharmacokinetics*. 2014;52:813-24.

Sublocade [Package Insert]

Vivitrol [Package Insert]

MUSC designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™]

MUSC will award 0.1 CEUs for this activity (1 contact hour = 0.1 CEU)

CMEs and CEUs stand 3rd FRIDAY of each month

12:00 –1:00 pm

High Quality MAT

2/05/21

Determining Levels of Care

Caitlin Kratz, MSW, LISW-CP, LAC, AADC

2/19/21

Non Pharmacological Treatment of Chronic Pain

Lauren Linder, PharmD