



Subject: Detoxification – Chemical Dependency Recovery Hospitals Policy#: 4.5.16

Title: Treatment with Buprenorphine/Naloxone (Suboxone) and Buprenorphine (Subutex)

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Effective Date of This Revision: July 1, 2017

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| Contact: | Medical Director 310-679-9126 | Administration |
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| Applies to: | <input type="checkbox"/> Officers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staff | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student clinicians | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteers |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other agents | <input type="checkbox"/> Visitors | <input type="checkbox"/> Contractors | <input type="checkbox"/> Subcontractors / Business Associates |

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this document is to outline policy for the use of Suboxone (Buprenorphine/Naloxone) and Subutex (Buprenorphine) for patients in the Detoxification Units of BHS's Chemical Dependency Recovery Hospitals.

POLICY:

Patients admitted to Behavioral Health Services, Inc. (BHS) chemical dependency treatment centers for opiate and methadone detoxification may be treated with Buprenorphine/Naloxone (Suboxone) or Buprenorphine (Subutex) respectively. Buprenorphine/Naloxone (Suboxone) or Buprenorphine (Subutex) is used in accordance with established written protocol. These drugs may be used as part of a complete program which also includes counseling and behavioral therapy.

PROCEDURES:

1. The use of Suboxone/Subutex will be based on a protocol designed by a physician licensed under the Drug Abuse Treatment Act (DATA) and approved by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
2. Suboxone/Subutex will not be used on the following patients:
 - a. Patients with compromised hepatic function.
 - b. Patients who are pregnant or breastfeeding
 - c. Patients below the age of 16 years.
 - d. The elderly or disabled patients.
 - e. Patients who are sensitive or allergic to Buprenorphine or Naloxone.

Detoxification - CDRHs Treatment with Buprenorphine/Naloxone
(Suboxone) and Buprenorphine
(Subutex)
Reviewed by: Medical Director, Directors of Nursing
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Policy # 4.5.16

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3. Suboxone/Subutex will not be combined with Chlordiazepoxide (Librium), Temazepam (Restoril) or Lorazepam (Ativan) as part of the protocol for opiate or methadone detoxification.
 4. Patients on Suboxone/Subutex will be monitored for signs and symptoms of opiate withdrawal which may include swelling, runny nose, muscle ache, anxiety, insomnia, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal cramps and goose bumps.
 5. All patients undergoing treatment with Suboxone/Subutex will sign a consent form explaining the adverse effects as well as the danger of combining these drugs with Benzodiazepines before being placed on the protocol.

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| Detoxification - CDRHs | Treatment with Buprenorphine/Naloxone (Suboxone) and Buprenorphine (Subutex) |
| Reviewed by: | Medical Director, Directors of Nursing |
| Approved by: | Board of Directors |
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