

# MEDICATIONS FOR OPIOID OVERDOSE, WITHDRAWAL & ADDICTION

Medications for opioid **overdose**, **withdrawal**, and **addiction** are safe, effective and save lives.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse supports research to develop new medicines and delivery systems to treat opioid use disorder and other substance use disorders, as well as other complications of substance use (including withdrawal and overdose), to help people choose treatments that are right for them.

FDA-approved medications for opioid addiction, overdose, and withdrawal work in various ways.

## —⊕— Opioid Receptor Agonist

Medications attach to opioid receptors in the brain to block withdrawal symptoms and cravings.

## —⊕— Opioid Receptor Partial Agonist

Medications attach to and partially activate opioid receptors in the brain to ease withdrawal symptoms and cravings.

## —⊖— Opioid Receptor Antagonist

Medications block activity of opioid receptors in the brain to prevent euphoric effects (the high) of opioids and alcohol and help reduce cravings.

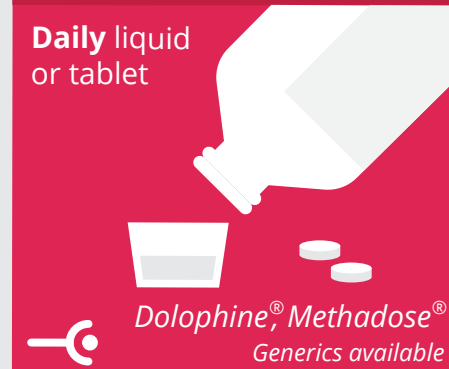
## —⊖— Adrenergic Receptor Agonist

A medication that attaches to and activates adrenergic receptors in the brain and helps alleviate withdrawal symptoms.

### REDUCES OPIOID USE AND CRAVINGS

#### Methadone

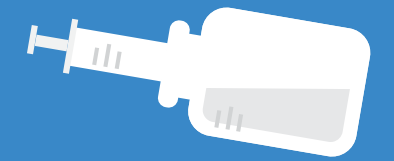
Daily liquid or tablet



Dolophine®, Methadose®  
Generics available

#### Naltrexone

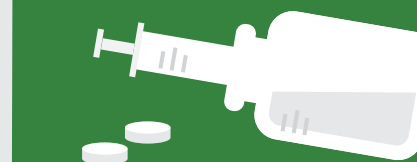
Monthly Injection



Vivitrol®

#### Buprenorphine

Daily tablet  
Monthly injection



Sublocade®  
Generic tablets available

#### Buprenorphine/ Naloxone

Daily film under the  
tongue or tablet



Zubsolv®, Suboxone®  
Generics available

### TREATS WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS

#### Lofexidine

As-needed tablet



Lucremyra®

### REVERSES OVERDOSE

#### Naloxone

Emergency nasal spray  
or injection



Narcan®  
Generics available