

Buprenorphine
(Base Hospital Order Only)

Classification: Narcotic analgesic (Class III)

Actions:

1. Buprenorphine; partial mu-receptor opioid agonist

Indications:

1. Management of opioid withdrawal in adults with moderate to severe opioid drug dependence

Contraindications:

1. **Recent methadone use (within 10 days)**
2. **No signs of Opioid withdrawal or COWS < 8**
3. **Altered mental status – unable to give consent**
4. **Severe medical illness – sepsis, respiratory distress, hypoglycemia etc.**

Adverse Effects (Precautions, Side Effects and Notes)

1. Headache
2. Nausea/Vomiting
3. Respiratory Depression

Administration:

ADULT DOSE – Base Hospital Order Only

1. **Buprenorphine – 16 mg SL film or tablet, reassess after 10 minutes**
 - a. 8 mg SL tablet secondary dose if ordered by Base Hospital after 10 minute reassessment for persistent or worsening symptoms

PEDIATRIC DOSE

2. **None - Contraindicated in patients under 16 years of age**
 - a. **Patients 16 and above same as adult**

Onset: 20 – 40 minutes
Peak effect 3-4 hours*

Duration: 24+ hours