



Appendix C: Opioid Agonist Treatment Medication Table

DRUGS FOR OPIOID AGONIST TREATMENT							
Generic Name	Trade Name	Available Dosage Forms	Recommended Adult Dose	Adverse Effects	Drug Interactions ^A	PharmaCare Coverage ^B	Approx. Cost ^C
buprenorphine/naloxone	Suboxone [®] , G	<p>SL tabs: (Suboxone, G): 2 mg/0.5 mg, 8 mg/2 mg</p> <p>SL tabs (Suboxone): 12 mg/3 mg 16 mg/4 mg</p>	<p>Day 1 Induction: Two 2 mg/0.5 mg SL tabs when COWS > 12 and no long-acting opioid used for at least 30 hours May be increased to three 2 mg/0.5 mg SL tabs when COWS > 24 and patient experienced severe withdrawal symptoms (max total: 12 mg/3 mg)</p> <p>Day 2 Onward: Continue once-daily dose equal to the total amount administered on the previous day titrating up as needed in subsequent days to a target dose of 16 mg/4 mg per day or greater. (max total: 24 mg/6 mg per day)</p>	Hyperhidrosis, abdominal pain, constipation, nausea, vomiting, headache, insomnia.	alcohol benzodiazepines and other CNS depressants naltrexone CYP3A4 inhibitors ^D CYP3A4 reducers ^E monoamine oxidase inhibitors	Yes, LCA: 2 mg/0.5 mg and 8 mg/2 mg No: 12 mg/3 mg and 16 mg/4 mg	\$77(G) \$307 Per 30 days based on a dose of 16 mg/4 mg (as 2 tablets of 8 mg/2 mg)
clonidine	G	Tab: 0.1, 0.2 mg	0.1 to 0.2 mg every 4 hours as needed for up to 12 hours. (max total: 0.6 mg) Check blood pressure prior to each dose and hold the dose if hypotension is present.	Sedation, dry mouth, orthostatic hypotension, dizziness.	alcohol diuretics beta-blockers ACE-inhibitors angiotensin receptor blockers calcium channel blockers digoxin atypical antipsychotics SSRIs methylphenidate	Yes	\$1.00 per day

Abbreviations: G generics; LCA low cost alternative program; max maximum dose; SL sublingual

^A Not an exhaustive list. Check the product monographic or an interaction checker (e.g., Lexicomp[®]) before prescribing

^B PharmaCare coverage as of July 2018 (subject to revision). Obtain current coverage, eligibility, and coverage information from the PharmaCare Formulary Search website at <https://pharmacareformularysearch.gov.bc.ca/>

^C Cost as of July 2018 and does not include retail markups or pharmacy fees. Generic and brand name cost separated as indicated by (G).

^D May increase buprenorphine plasma concentrations (e.g., protease inhibitors, macrolide antibiotics, and azole antifungals)

^E May decrease buprenorphine plasma concentrations (e.g., phenobarbital, carbamazepine, phenytoin, and rifampicin)