

SUBOXONE® (buprenorphine and naloxone) Sublingual Film (CIII)
IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Prescription use of this product is limited under the Drug Addiction Treatment Act.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: SUBOXONE Sublingual Film is contraindicated in patients with a history of hypersensitivity to buprenorphine or naloxone as serious adverse reactions, including anaphylactic shock, have been reported.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse: SUBOXONE Sublingual Film contains buprenorphine, a Schedule III controlled substance that can be abused in a manner similar to other opioids and is subject to criminal diversion. Monitor patients for conditions indicative of diversion or progression of opioid dependence and addictive behaviors.

Risk of Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression and Concomitant Use of Benzodiazepines or Other CNS Depressants with Buprenorphine: Buprenorphine has been associated with life-threatening respiratory depression, overdose, and death, particularly when misused by self-injection or with concomitant use of benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants, including alcohol. Warn patients of the potential danger of self-administration of benzodiazepines, other CNS depressants, opioid analgesics, and alcohol while under treatment with SUBOXONE Sublingual Film. Counsel patients that such medications should not be used concomitantly unless supervised by a healthcare provider.

Use with caution in patients with compromised respiratory function (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, cor pulmonale, decreased respiratory reserve, hypoxia, hypercapnia, or pre-existing respiratory depression).

Opioids can cause sleep-related breathing disorders; e.g., central sleep apnea (CSA), sleep-related hypoxemia. Opioid use increases the risk of CSA in a dose-dependent fashion. Consider decreasing the opioid using best practices for opioid taper if CSA occurs.

Strongly consider prescribing naloxone at the time SUBOXONE Sublingual Film is initiated or renewed because patients being treated for opioid use disorder have the potential for relapse, putting them at risk for opioid overdose. Educate patients and caregivers on how to recognize respiratory depression and, if naloxone is prescribed, how to treat with naloxone. Emphasize the importance of calling 911 or getting emergency help, even if naloxone is administered.

Unintentional Pediatric Exposure: Buprenorphine can cause severe, possibly fatal, respiratory depression in children who are accidentally exposed to it. Instruct patients to store SUBOXONE Sublingual Film safely out of the sight and reach of children.

Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome: Neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome (NOWS) is an expected and treatable outcome of prolonged use of opioids during pregnancy. NOWS may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated in the neonate. Newborns should be observed for signs of NOWS and managed accordingly. Advise pregnant women receiving opioid addiction treatment with SUBOXONE Sublingual Film of the risk of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome.

Adrenal Insufficiency: Adrenal insufficiency has been reported with opioid use. If adrenal insufficiency is diagnosed, treat with physiologic replacement doses of corticosteroids. Wean the patient off the opioid.

Discontinuation of SUBOXONE Sublingual Film Treatment: If treatment is temporarily interrupted or discontinued, monitor patients for several months for withdrawal and treat appropriately.

Risk of Hepatitis, Hepatic Events: Because cases of cytolytic hepatitis and hepatitis with jaundice have been observed in individuals receiving buprenorphine, monitor liver function tests prior to treatment and periodically during treatment.

Hypersensitivity Reactions: Hypersensitivity to buprenorphine- and naloxone-containing products have been reported most commonly as rashes, hives, and pruritus. Some cases of bronchospasm, angioneurotic edema, and anaphylactic shock have also been reported.

Precipitation of Opioid Signs and Symptoms: An opioid withdrawal syndrome is likely to occur with parenteral misuse of SUBOXONE Sublingual Film by individuals physically dependent on full opioid agonists such as heroin, morphine, or methadone. SUBOXONE Sublingual Film may precipitate opioid withdrawal signs and symptoms in such persons before the effects of the full opioid agonist have subsided.

Risk of Overdose in Opioid Naïve Patients: Because death has been reported for opioid naïve individuals who received buprenorphine sublingual tablet for analgesia, SUBOXONE Sublingual Film is not appropriate as an analgesic.

Use in Patients With Impaired Hepatic Function: SUBOXONE Sublingual Film is not recommended in patients with severe hepatic impairment and may not be appropriate for patients with moderate hepatic impairment. In patients with moderate hepatic impairment, SUBOXONE Sublingual Film is not recommended for initiation of treatment, but may be used with caution and careful monitoring for maintenance treatment in patients who have initiated treatment on a buprenorphine product without naloxone.

Dental Adverse Events: Cases of dental caries, some severe (i.e., tooth fracture, tooth loss), have been reported following the use of transmucosal buprenorphine-containing products. Reported events include cavities, tooth decay, dental abscesses/infection, rampant caries, tooth erosion, fillings falling out, and, in some cases, total tooth loss. Treatment for these events included tooth extraction, root canal, dental surgery, as well as other restorative procedures (i.e., fillings, crowns, implants, dentures). Multiple cases were reported in individuals without any prior history of dental problems. Refer patients to dental care services and encourage them to have regular dental checkups while taking SUBOXONE Sublingual Film. Educate patients to seek dental care and strategies to maintain or improve oral health while being treated with transmucosal buprenorphine-containing products. Strategies include, but are not limited to, gently rinsing the teeth and gums with water and then swallowing after SUBOXONE Sublingual Film has been completely dissolved in the oral mucosa. Advise patients to wait for at least one hour after taking SUBOXONE Sublingual Film before brushing teeth.

QTc Prolongation: QT studies with buprenorphine products have demonstrated QT prolongation ≤ 15 msec. Buprenorphine is unlikely to be pro-arrhythmic when used alone in patients without risk factors. The risk of combining buprenorphine with other QT-prolonging agents is not known. Consider these observations when prescribing SUBOXONE Sublingual Film to patients with risk factors such as hypokalemia, bradycardia, recent conversion from atrial fibrillation, congestive heart failure, digitalis therapy, baseline QT prolongation, subclinical long-QT syndrome, or severe hypomagnesemia.

Impairment of Ability to Drive or Operate Machinery: SUBOXONE Sublingual Film may impair the mental or physical abilities required for the performance of potentially dangerous tasks such as driving a car or operating machinery. Caution patients about driving or operating hazardous machinery until they are reasonably certain that SUBOXONE Film does not adversely affect their ability to engage in such activities.

Orthostatic Hypotension: Buprenorphine may produce orthostatic hypotension.

Elevation of Cerebrospinal Fluid Pressure: Buprenorphine may elevate cerebrospinal fluid pressure and should be used with caution in patients with head injury, intracranial lesions, and other circumstances when cerebrospinal pressure may be increased. Buprenorphine can produce miosis and changes in the level of consciousness that may interfere with patient evaluation.

Elevation of Intracholedochal Pressure: Buprenorphine has been shown to increase intracholedochal pressure, as do other opioids, and thus should be administered with caution to patients with dysfunction of the biliary tract.

Effects in Acute Abdominal Conditions: Buprenorphine may obscure the diagnosis or clinical course of patients with acute abdominal conditions.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: Adverse events commonly observed with SUBOXONE Sublingual Film include oral hypoesthesia, glossodynia, oral mucosal erythema, headache, nausea, vomiting, hyperhidrosis, constipation, signs and symptoms of withdrawal, insomnia, pain, and peripheral edema. This is not a complete list of potential adverse events. Please see the full Prescribing Information for a complete list.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

Benzodiazepines: Use caution in prescribing SUBOXONE Sublingual Film for patients receiving benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants and warn patients against concomitant self-administration/misuse.

CYP3A4 Inhibitors and Inducers: Monitor patients starting or ending CYP3A4 inhibitors or inducers for potential over- or under- dosing.

Antiretrovirals: In patients on chronic SUBOXONE Sublingual Film treatment, monitor dose if non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors are added to their treatment regimen. Monitor patients taking SUBOXONE Sublingual Film and atazanavir with and without ritonavir, and reduce dose of SUBOXONE Sublingual Film if warranted.

Serotonergic Drugs: If concomitant use with serotonergic drugs is warranted, monitor for serotonin syndrome, particularly during treatment initiation and dose adjustment. Discontinue SUBOXONE Sublingual Film if serotonin syndrome is suspected.

Consult the full Prescribing Information for SUBOXONE Sublingual Film for more information on potentially significant drug interactions.

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

Pregnancy: Opioid-dependent women on buprenorphine maintenance therapy may require additional analgesia during labor.

Lactation: Buprenorphine passes into the mother's milk. Advise breastfeeding women to monitor the infant for increased drowsiness and breathing difficulties.

Fertility: Chronic use of opioids may cause reduced fertility. It is not known whether these effects on fertility are reversible.

Geriatric Patients: Monitor geriatric patients receiving SUBOXONE Sublingual Film for sedation or respiratory depression.

To report pregnancy or side effects associated with taking SUBOXONE Sublingual Film, please call 1-877-782-6966.

For more information about SUBOXONE Sublingual Film, see the full [Prescribing Information](#) and [Medication Guide](#). For REMS information visit www.BTODREMS.com.