



## **BRIXADI® Patient Education Sheet**

*This handout provides information on BRIXADI®, an injectable formulation of buprenorphine. Please read it and let your provider know if you have any questions.*

**What is BRIXADI®, and how does it work?** BRIXADI® is a long-acting buprenorphine injection used to treat opioid use disorder. The injection is available in two formulations: weekly and monthly.

Weekly BRIXADI® administered every 7 days	Weekly doses: 8mg, 16mg, 24mg, 32mg
Monthly BRIXADI® administered every 28 days	Monthly doses: 64mg, 96mg, 128mg

- BRIXADI® gives you an entire week or month of medicine in one injection by continuously releasing medicine all week or month at steady levels without daily highs and lows. Your healthcare team will work with you to determine the appropriate formulation and dose for you.

### **What do I need to do before starting BRIXADI®?**

- Before starting BRIXADI®, you must be able to tolerate at least ONE 4 mg dose of transmucosal buprenorphine OR are already taking buprenorphine.
- If you are not currently taking buprenorphine, you will need to start with weekly BRIXADI®.
- If you are already on buprenorphine, you can start with either weekly or monthly BRIXADI®.
- If you are currently using opioids and not taking buprenorphine, work with your provider to start buprenorphine films or tabs first to avoid precipitated withdrawal prior to receiving the injection.

### **How will I get my BRIXADI® injections?**

- BRIXADI® will be administered by your healthcare provider as a subcutaneous injection (under the skin) in either your buttock, thigh, stomach (abdomen) or upper arm.
- BRIXADI® is injected as a liquid that forms a lump under the skin called a depot. For a few weeks, you may see or feel a small bump under your skin at the injection site, and it may get smaller over time. Do not try to remove the depot.

### **What are the possible side effects of BRIXADI®?**

Like any medicine, BRIXADI® may cause side effects. The most common side effects are:

- Headache
- Constipation
- Nausea
- Trouble sleeping (insomnia)
- Urinary tract infection

***Injection-site adverse reactions are typically mild to moderate. Still, please contact your healthcare team immediately if you experience increased pain, redness, skin changes, or burning/itching of the injection site, as this may warrant further evaluation.***

Contact your health care team or seek care immediately if you think you may be experiencing any severe side effects, such as trouble breathing, sleepiness, dizziness or problems with coordination, liver problems (dark urine, yellow skin/eyes, abdominal pain), allergic reaction, opioid withdrawal, or low blood pressure.

### **What is the important safety information I need to know about BRIXADI®?**

**BRIXADI® should never be injected into a vein because it would cause serious harm or even death. Patients should never handle this medication.** Death or serious harm can happen if you take anxiety medicines or benzodiazepines, sleeping pills, tranquilizers, muscle relaxers or sedatives, or drink alcohol during treatment with BRIXADI®. The BRIXADI® needle cap is made with latex and may cause sensitivity in latex-allergic individuals. BRIXADI® contains soybeans, so those with a soybean allergy should avoid this medication. In an emergency, you or your family should tell the medical staff you are on BRIXADI®.

**Ask your healthcare provider about naloxone (Narcan®) —a medication that reverses an opioid overdose.**

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