XR-NALTREXONE AS AN ELEMENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL RESPONSE TO THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

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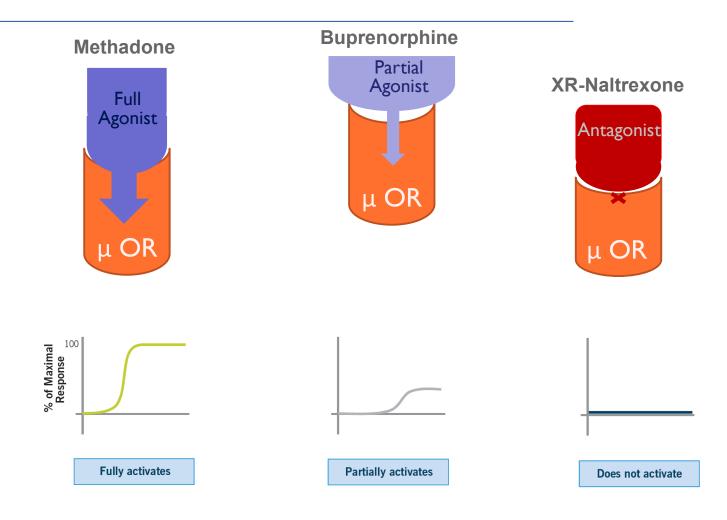
Columbia University and New York State Psychiatric Institute

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FDA-APPROVED MEDICATION FOR OUD (MOUD)





FDA-APPROVED MEDICATIONS: ANTAGONIST

Naltrexone

- Prevents activation of opioid receptors and "stabilizes" opioidergic system
- Blocks effects of exogenous opioids and blocks re-development of physical dependence (prevents relapse)
 - relieves craving, stabilizes affect

Limitations

 Can only be administered after resolution of physical dependence (opioid withdrawal)

Concerns

- There are concerns about naltrexone, some are justified, others are
- Naltrexone is often "pitted against" agonists rather than seen as "complementing" the other medications



NALTREXONE: CONCERNS

MYTHS

- Ineffective (no effect on craving)
- Dangerous (override/overdose)
- Worsens the disorder (depression/suicidality)
- Patients do not want it
- Prevents patients from receiving beneficial treatment

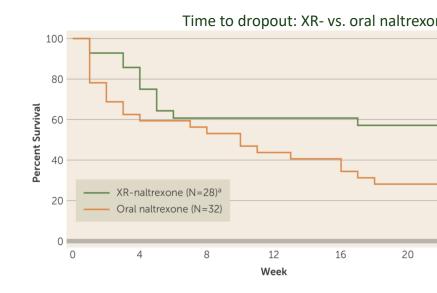
REAL CONCERNS

- Induction hurdle
- Retention hurdle



NALTREXONE: ORAL VS. XR PREPARATIONS

A lot of opinions about naltrexone relate to the oral form (daily parts)
 BUT: XR-naltrexone is superior to oral naltrexone





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