

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

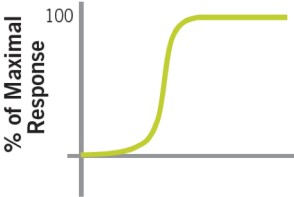
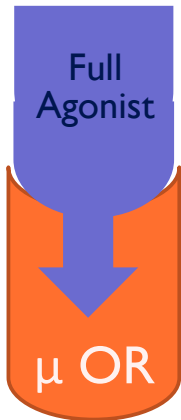
Adam Bisaga M.D.

Columbia University and New York State Psychiatric Institute

National Academies, Public Workshop on MAT, Washington DC, October 30, 2018

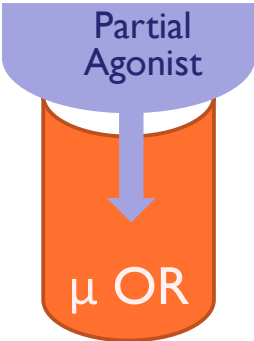
FDA-APPROVED MEDICATION FOR OUD (MOUD)

Methadone



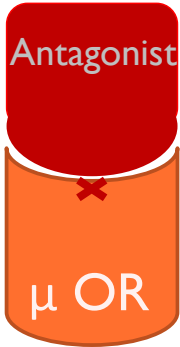
Fully activates

Buprenorphine



Partially activates

XR-Naltrexone



Does not activate

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**

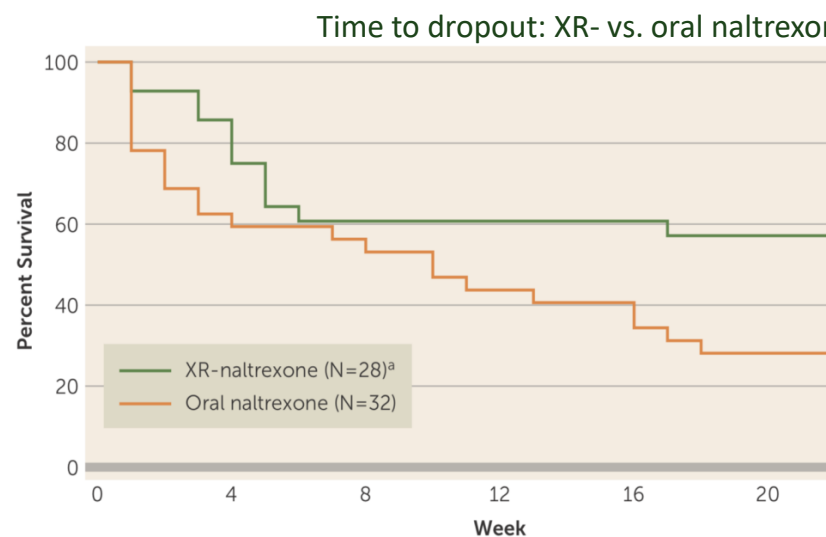
- There are concerns about naltrexone, some are justified, others are not
- Naltrexone is often “pitted against” agonists rather than seen as “complementing” the other medications

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 p
BUT: XR-naltrexone is superior to oral naltrexone



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