

Sustained Positive Buprenorphine after LAIs and Naltrexone Micro-Dosing in Treating OUD

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INTRODUCTION

- Highlight challenges in transitioning from long-acting injectable (LAI) Buprenorphine to Naltrexone in opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment.
- Introduce a novel micro-dosing regimen for Naltrexone initiation to minimize withdrawal symptoms.

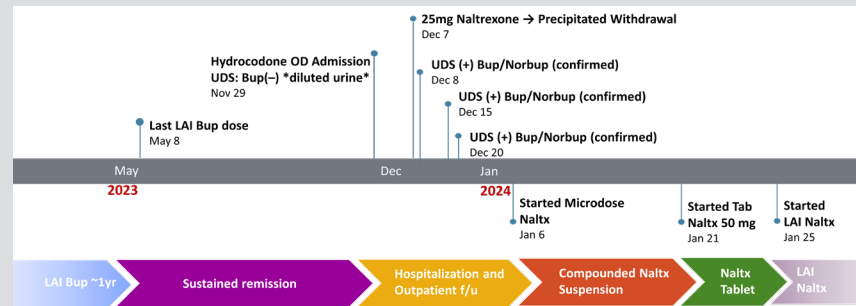
METHODS

Case Description:

- 18-year-old female with OUD history, previously on LAI Buprenorphine for ~1 year.
- 7 months after the last LAI Buprenorphine, patient admitted after Hydrocodone overdose; initial UDS in ED negative for Buprenorphine due to diluted urine.
- 9 days after last Hydrocodone, she started oral Naltrexone tablet 25 mg and developed severe precipitated withdrawal symptoms.

Intervention:

- Micro-dosing compounded Naltrexone:
 - Started at 2 mg daily, increased until reaching 20 mg with supportive medications.
 - Transitioned to traditional Naltrexone tablets (25 mg, then 50 mg daily).
 - Switched to LAI Naltrexone for maintenance.



RESULTS

- Persistent Buprenorphine positivity in UDS highlighted challenges in interpreting test results.
- Emergency response fluid resuscitation confounds UDS results.
- Patient tolerated the micro-dosing regimen with minimal withdrawal symptoms.
- Successful transition to LAI Naltrexone achieved.

CONCLUSION

Key Findings:

- LAI Buprenorphine's long detection window complicates transitions to naltrexone.
- Micro-dosing Naltrexone is a viable strategy to minimize withdrawal symptoms.

Limitations:

- Single case report; further studies needed to validate findings.
- UDS interpretation requires careful consideration of factors like urine dilution.
- Contextual challenges in varied clinical settings (e.g., ED may lack confirmatory UDS capabilities).

Implications:

- Micro-dosing Naltrexone offers a promising approach for patients transitioning from LAI buprenorphine.
- Highlights the need for improved UDS interpretation protocols in clinical settings.

AUTHORS & DISCLOSURES

Anyun Ma^{1,2}, Kenneth Zoucha^{1,2}
1. UNMC; A. Nothing to disclose

REFERENCES

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