Buprenorphine SA INJ (SUBLOCADE)
Criteria for Use
April 2023
VA Pharmacy Benefits Management Services, Medical Advisory Panel, and VISN Pharmacist Executives

The following recommendations are based on medical evidence, clinician input, and expert opinion. The content of the document is dynamic and will be revised as new information becomes available. The purpose of this document is to assist practitioners in clinical decision-making, to standardize and improve the quality of patient care, and to promote cost-effective drug prescribing. THE CLINICIAN SHOULD USE THIS GUIDANCE AND INTERPRET IT IN THE CLINICAL CONTEXT OF THE INDIVIDUAL PATIENT. INDIVIDUAL CASES THAT ARE EXCEPTIONS TO THE EXCLUSION AND INCLUSION CRITERIA SHOULD BE ADJUDICATED AT THE LOCAL FACILITY ACCORDING TO THE POLICY AND PROCEDURES OF ITS P&T COMMITTEE AND PHARMACY SERVICES.

The Product Information should be consulted for detailed prescribing information.

Exclusion Criteria
If the answer to ANY item below is met, then the patient should NOT receive buprenorphine SA inj.

☐ Hypersensitivity to buprenorphine sublingual or SA injection
☐ Receiving a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) or within 14 days of stopping such treatment
☐ Moderate to severe hepatic impairment

Inclusion Criteria
The answers to ALL of the following must be fulfilled in order to meet criteria.

☐ Prescriber is a VA DEA licensed provider
☐ The dispensing pharmacy is certified in the SUBLOCADE REMS program and agrees to follow all REMS guidance
☐ Has moderate to severe opioid use disorder and has been initiated on treatment with a transmucosal buprenorphine-containing product followed by dose adjustment for a minimum of 7 days
☐ Patient has been offered a treatment plan that includes counseling and psychosocial support
☐ Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) has been checked
☐ Patient has been offered naloxone for reversal of opioid overdose

Updated April 2023. Prepared June 2022. Contact: Ian W. Pace, PharmD., National Clinical Pharmacy Program Manager, VA Pharmacy Benefits Management Services (12PBM)