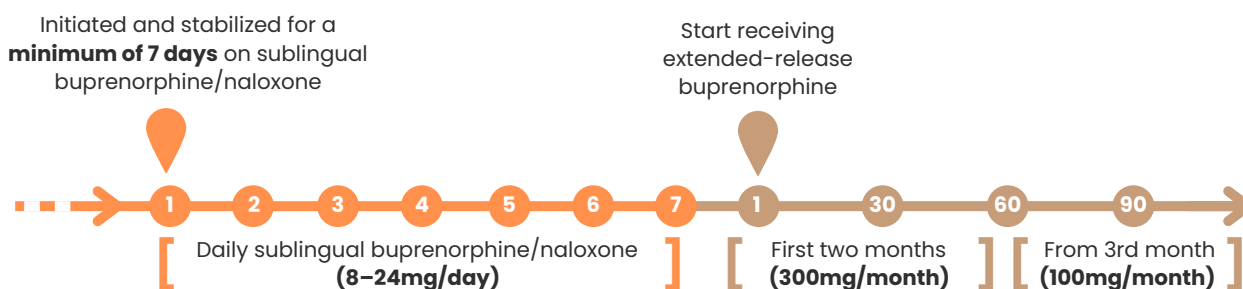


Extended-release Buprenorphine Guidance

This document provides a high-level overview on the guidance of extended-release buprenorphine for the treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD). For full guidance please refer to the BC Centre on Substance Use's [A Guideline for the Management of Opioid Use Disorder](#). The manufacturer of Sublocade requires that all prescribers interested in prescribing Sublocade complete training through www.sublocadecertification.ca. The manufacturer's product monograph provides additional information on Sublocade.

- Extended-release buprenorphine is an extended-release formulation of buprenorphine that is administered monthly via abdominal subcutaneous injection
- Indicated for adults (age 19 years) who have been initiated and stabilized on sublingual buprenorphine/naloxone
- Two dose strengths: 100mg/0.5ml and 300mg/1.5ml

GENERAL INITIATION AND DOSING INFORMATION



- **Individuals should generally be initiated and stabilized on sublingual buprenorphine/naloxone (8-24mg/day) for a minimum of 7 days prior to receiving extended-release buprenorphine**
 - If needed, more rapid transition to extended-release buprenorphine may be feasible and may facilitate treatment retention
- **Individuals starting extended-release buprenorphine should be prescribed 300mg for the first two months, followed by a maintenance dose of 100mg/month from the 3rd month**
 - Note: People who have been stable on 8mg/2mg-18mg/4.5mg of sublingual buprenorphine/naloxone may begin to receive their maintenance dose of 100mg/month once a month after a single induction dose of 300mg
- Prescribers may **consider providing supplemental sublingual buprenorphine/naloxone** for individuals who continue to experience **opioid withdrawal and cravings**
- At the discretion of the treating prescriber, **the maintenance dose may be increased to 300mg/ month** if the person experiences **ongoing opioid cravings or ongoing unregulated opioid use while on a 100mg/month maintenance dose**
- Extended-release buprenorphine doses must be **administered monthly**
 - A minimum length of 26 days is required between doses

Scan to download file



Extended-release Buprenorphine Guidance

MISSED DOSES

- **Up to 2 weeks delay in monthly injection (i.e., up to 42 days after last dose)**
 - Occasional delays of up to 2 weeks are not expected to significantly impact treatment effect
 - If a person misses a monthly extended-release buprenorphine injection, they should receive their next dose as soon as possible, and monthly injections should be resumed thereafter
- **More than 2 weeks delay in monthly injection (i.e., >42 days after last dose)**
 - Re-induction is warranted
 - Person should be restarted on sublingual buprenorphine/naloxone followed by a rapid transition to extended-release buprenorphine

Scan to download file

