



# **ECHO IDAHO:** **Opioids, Pain & Substance Use Disorders**

**Long-Acting Injectable Buprenorphine**

**08/08/24**

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None of the planners or presenters for this educational activity have relevant financial relationship(s) to disclose with ineligible companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.

# Learning Objectives



IDENTIFY CANDIDATES FOR LONG-  
ACTING INJECTABLE  
BUPRENORPHINE



COUNSEL PATIENTS ON PROS AND  
CONS OF INJECTABLE  
BUPRENORPHINE



COMPARE INJECTION  
CHARACTERISTICS BETWEEN  
BRIXADI AND SUBLOCADE

# Sublingual Buprenorphine Formulations for OUD

Monoproduct tabs



Combo product tabs



Combo product films



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## **Buprenorphine Injections**

- Brixadi and Sublocade
- REMS medications
- Subcutaneous
- Crystalline matrix
- Open formulary VA and Medicaid
  
- Risks same as transmucosal buprenorphine + local skin reactions (and – dental concerns)

# Patient Selection

## Indications

- Concern for diversion
- Intermittent treatment adherence
- Justice involvement
- Medication storage concerns
- Patient preference
- Dental concerns?

## Contraindications

- Allergy to components
- Upcoming major surgery
- Moderate/severe hepatic impairment
- Cellulitis/scarring at site

# Brixadi

- Prior to start: 4mg SL x1 (weekly) or “stable” dose of SL buprenorphine (monthly)
- Needle: 23-gauge
- Volume: 0.16mL-0.64mL
- Surgical removal: No
- Notes: decreased absorption in arms

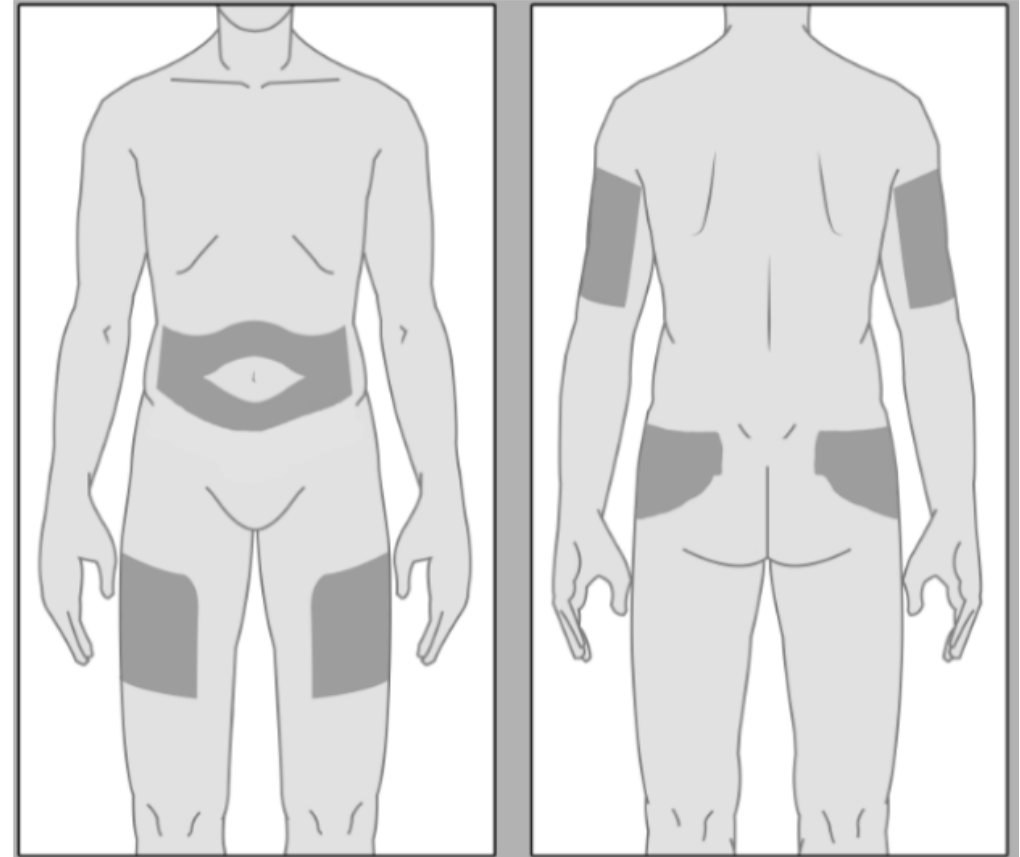
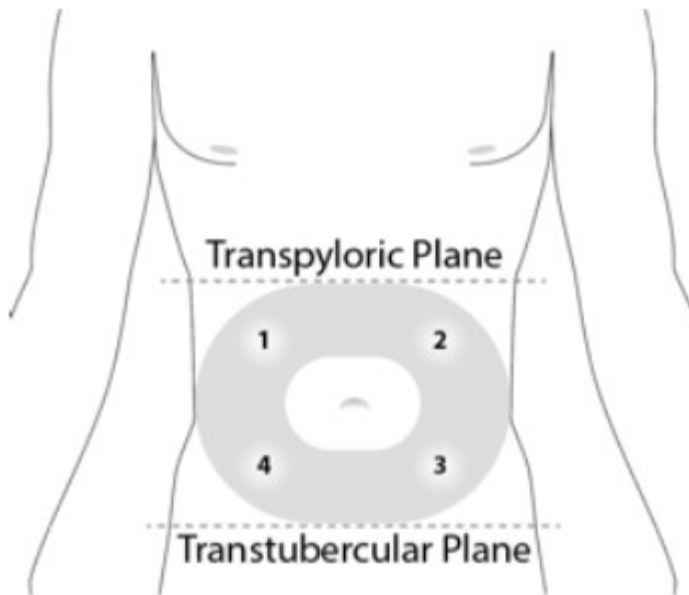
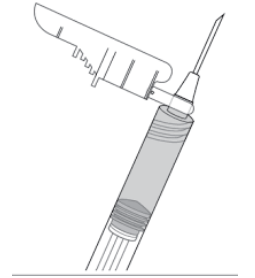


Figure 4



# Sublocade

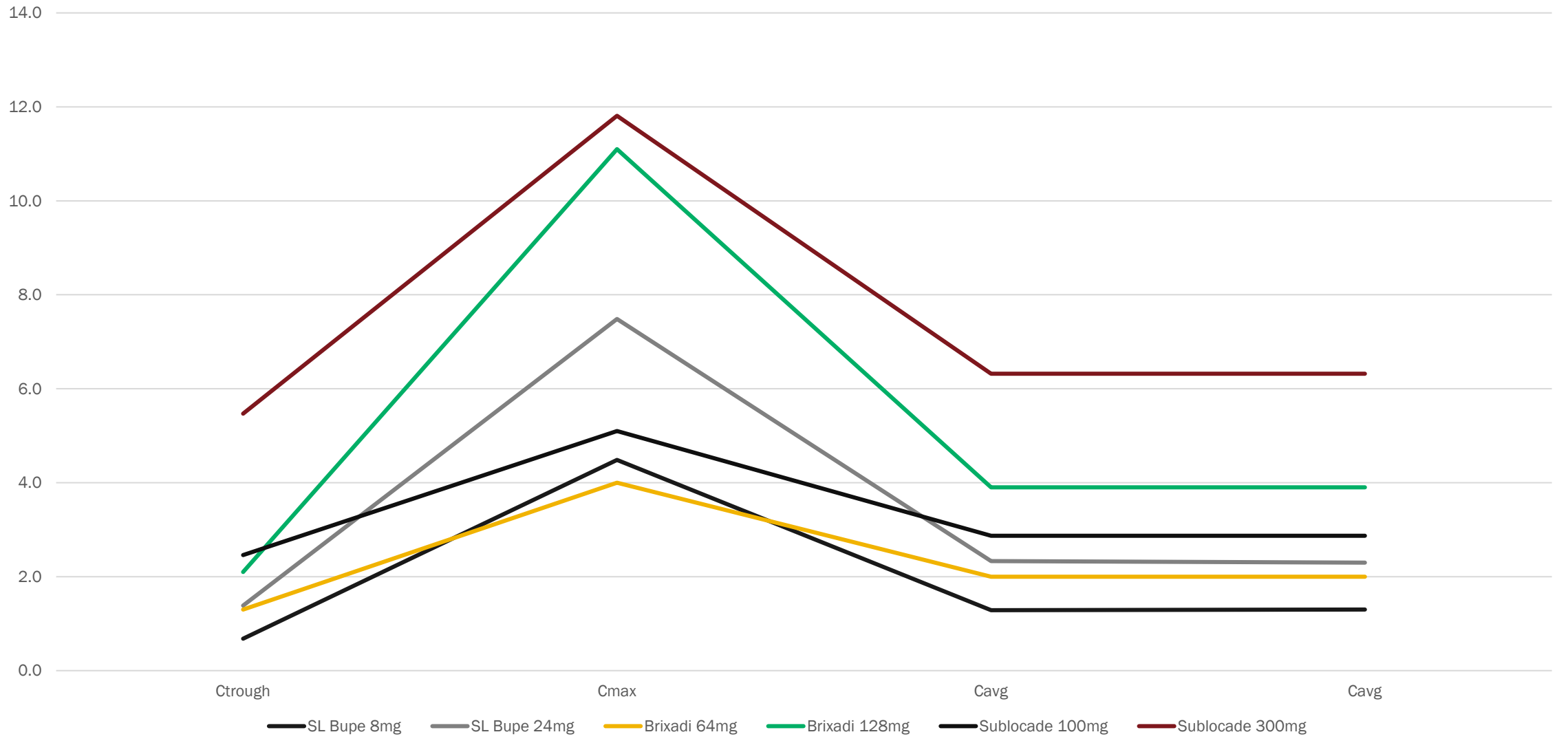
- Prior to start: SL bupe x 7 days (8-24mg)
- Needle: 18 gauge,
- Volume: 0.5mL (100mg) or 1.5mL (300mg)
- Surgical excision: first 14 days
- Notes: stings, starting regimen



<b>Sublingual Buprenorphine*</b>	<b>Brixadi (weekly)</b>	<b>Brixadi (monthly)</b>	<b>Sublocade (dose 1)</b>	<b>Sublocade (dose 2)</b>	<b>Sublocade (maintenance)</b>
<6mg	8mg	n/a	n/a		
8-10mg	16mg	64mg	300mg	100mg	100mg
12-16mg	24mg	96mg	300mg	100mg*	100mg
18-24mg	32mg	128mg	300mg	300mg	100mg
>24mg			300mg	300mg	300mg



### Buprenorphine Concentrations (ng/mL)



# REMS

- No certification to prescribe
- Meds can be obtained from REMS-certified pharmacy for individual patients at a specified appt time without REMS certification
- REMS required to stock Sublocade and Brixadi

## FDA-REQUIRED REMS SAFETY INFORMATION

### **WARNING: RISK OF SERIOUS HARM OR DEATH WITH INTRAVENOUS ADMINISTRATION; SUBLOCADE RISK EVALUATION AND MITIGATION STRATEGY**

- Serious harm or death could result if administered intravenously. SUBLOCADE forms a solid mass upon contact with body fluids and may cause occlusion, local tissue damage, and thrombo-embolic events, including life threatening pulmonary emboli, if administered intravenously.
- Because of the risk of serious harm or death that could result from intravenous self-administration, SUBLOCADE is only available through a restricted program called the SUBLOCADE REMS. Healthcare settings and pharmacies that order and dispense SUBLOCADE must be certified in this program and comply with the REMS requirements.

# Start prescribing/dispensing

The BRIXADI REMS Fact Sheet is enclosed, or you can also access it by visiting [www.BrixadiRems.com/Fact-Sheet](http://www.BrixadiRems.com/Fact-Sheet) or scanning the QR code below:



REMS-certified Pharmacy Locator [Resources](#)

## REMS-certified Pharmacy Locator

Below is a list of REMS-certified pharmacies dispensing SUBLOCADE.

Some network specialty pharmacies may ship to limited states only.  
Search below to find the network specialty pharmacies available for a specific state.

\*Enter State:

ID



# Key Points

Injectable buprenorphine is a great option for select patients

Risks associated with use <<< untreated opioid use disorder

Brixadi has more dosing options; Sublocade achieves higher serum levels

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# References

- Brixadi package insert updated 5/2023
- Sublocade package insert revised 12/2023

**Table 7: Summary of steady-state PK parameters of buprenorphine after subcutaneous buttock injections of BRIXADI (weekly) and BRIXADI (monthly) and sublingual (SL) administration of SUBUTEX**

Drug product dose			$C_{av}$ (ng/mL)			$C_{max}$ (ng/mL)			$C_{trough}^a$ (ng/mL)		
SL BPN	Brixadi (weekly)	Brixadi (monthly)	SL BPN *	Brixadi (weekly)	Brixadi (monthly)	SL BPN *	Brixadi (weekly)	Brixadi (monthly)	SL BPN *	Brixadi (weekly)	Brixadi (monthly)
8 mg	16 mg	64 mg	1.2	2.1	2.0 <sup>\$</sup>	4.7	4.3	4.0 <sup>\$</sup>	0.7	0.8	1.3 <sup>\$</sup>
16 mg	24 mg	96 mg	1.8	2.9 <sup>\$</sup>	2.9 <sup>\$</sup>	6.5	5.5 <sup>\$</sup>	6.0 <sup>\$</sup>	1.0	1.4 <sup>\$</sup>	2.0 <sup>\$</sup>
24 mg	32 mg	128 mg	2.5	4.2	3.9	8.2	6.9	11.1	1.4	2.6	2.1

**Table 7 Comparison of Steady-state Buprenorphine Plasma Exposure Between Daily Transmucosal Buprenorphine and Once Monthly SUBLOCADE at Trough ( $C_{trough}$ ), Average ( $C_{avg}$ ) and Peak ( $C_{max}$ ) Levels (Geometric Mean (CV%))**

Pharmacokinetic parameters	Transmucosal Buprenorphine				SUBLOCADE	
	8 mg	12 mg	16 mg	24 mg	100 mg	300 mg
$C_{avg,ss}$ (ng/mL)	1.37 (40)	1.79 (40)	2.16 (40)	2.84 (40)	2.87 (32)	6.32 (32)
$C_{max,ss}$ (ng/mL)	4.27 (45)	5.60 (45)	6.77 (45)	8.86 (45)	5.10 (33)	11.81 (35)
$C_{trough,ss}$ (ng/mL)	0.66 (63)	0.87 (63)	1.04 (61)	1.37 (62)	2.46 (40)	5.47 (39)