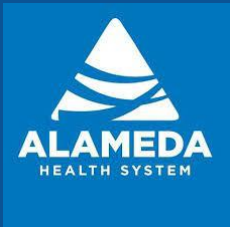


# Rapid high-dose Bup induction in the Emergency Department and by Paramedics: initial observations and future directions

Andrew A Herring  
[aherring@alamedahealthsystem.org](mailto:aherring@alamedahealthsystem.org)



# Disclosures:

**Funding:** Alameda Health System/East Bay Medical Group; Alameda County Behavioral Healthcare Services. NIDA CTN; Public Health Institute/CA Bridge; Honoria for various single talk presentations for health systems/organizations including Vituity, Team Health, and Kaiser.

# Decriminalize drug use

We are  
the **Drug**  
**Policy**  
**Alliance.**

*Photo: Brian L. Frank for The New York Times*



[Problem](#)

[Solution](#)

[Impact](#)

[Tools](#)

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# Transforming addiction treatment

CA Bridge saves lives by making it possible for people who use drugs to get treatment at any hospital—whenever and wherever they need it.

Dr. Leslie Mukau, Medical Director for the Emergency Department El Centro Regional Medical Center at a CA Bridge training.

**Treat a Patient**

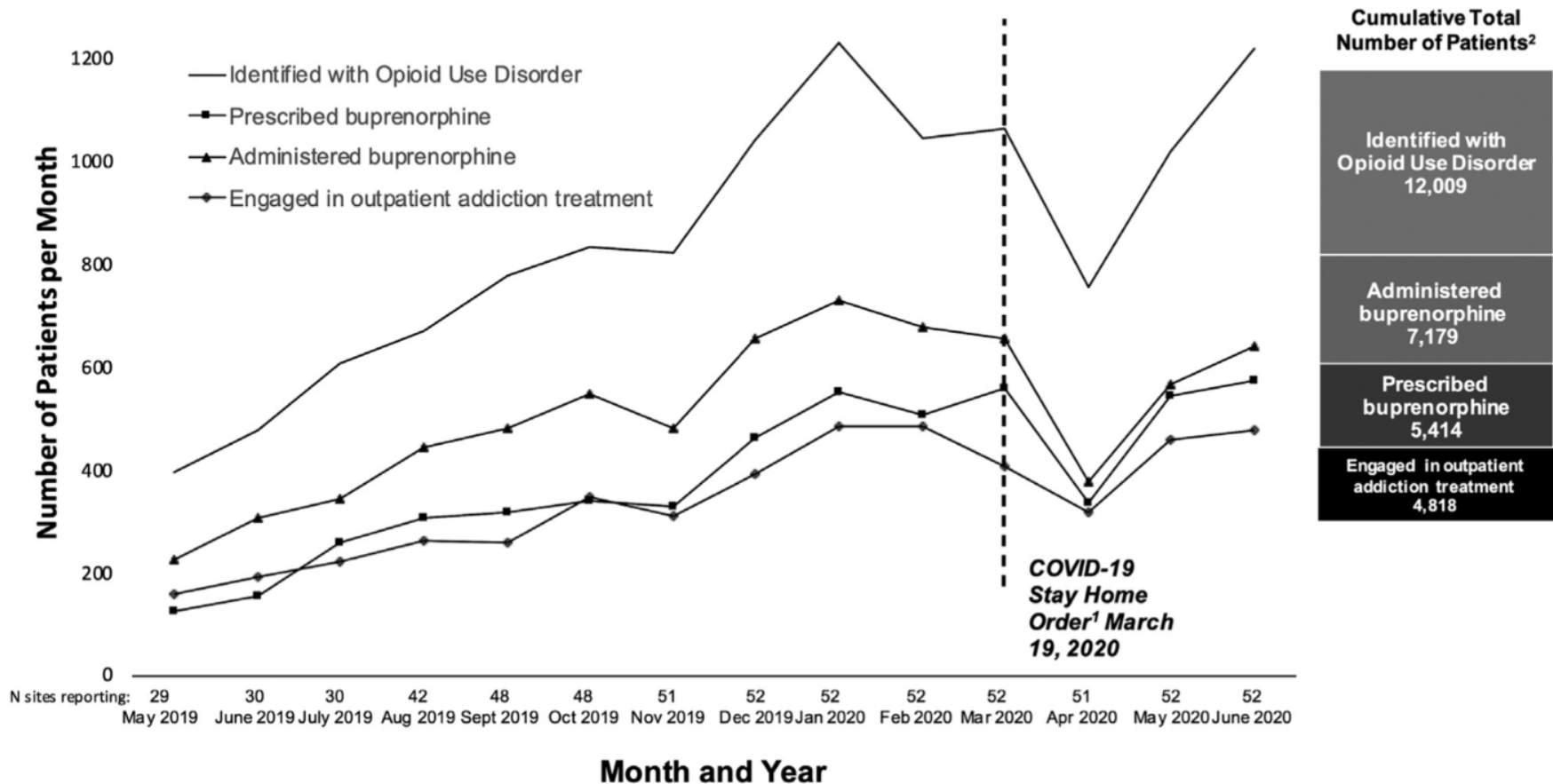
While you're on-shift/on-service.



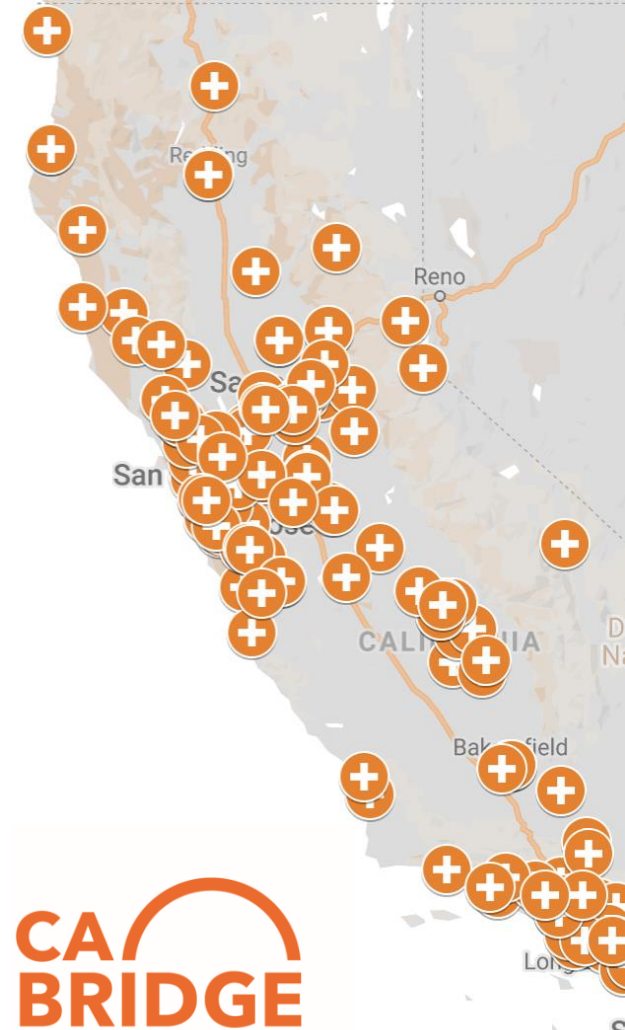
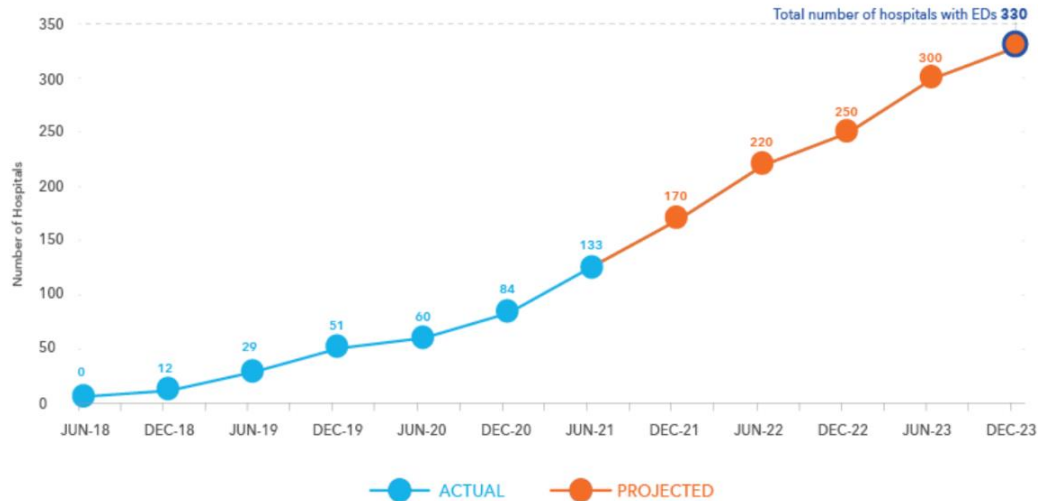
**Find Treatment**

To help with your drug use.



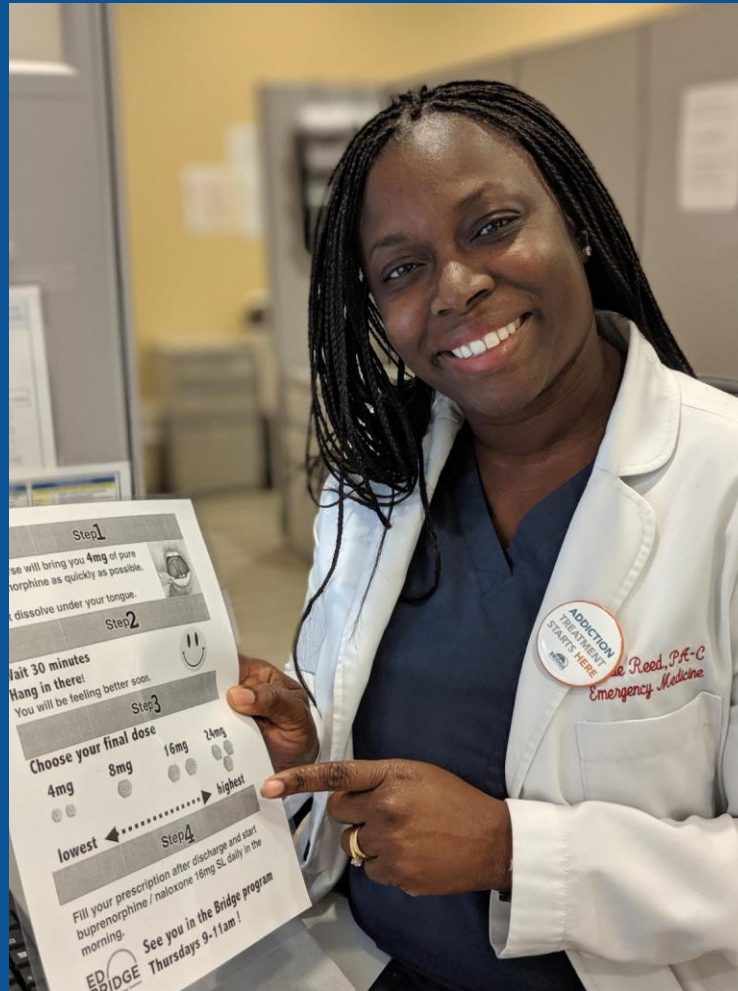


# 282 CA Bridge Hospitals in California



# Implementation Goal

**Friendly, on demand  
buprenorphine, dosed  
right, the first time**



## Objectives:

1. A pharmacologic model for the complex interaction of buprenorphine and full agonist opioids (both illicit and medically administered) in variety of commonly encountered clinical scenarios.
1. Strategies to optimize both buprenorphine and full agonist dosing and titration to promote successful induction.
1. Effectively adapt treatment plans when buprenorphine induction becomes complex using buprenorphine and additional medications such as full agonist opioids and ketamine.



# Getting started in 2016

1 / 73



100%



## **Emergency Department Medication-Assisted Treatment of Opioid Addiction**

Updated: August 2016

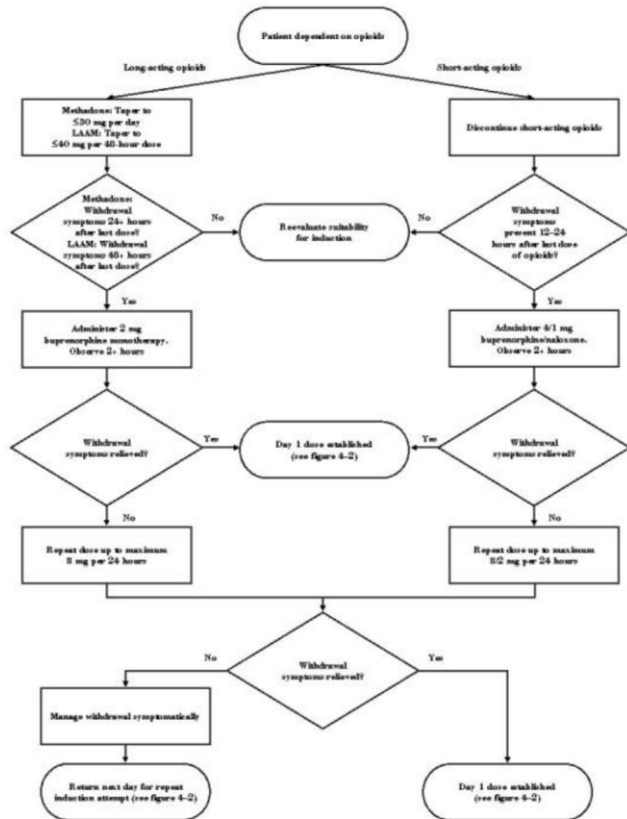


Figure 4-1. Induction Days 1–2

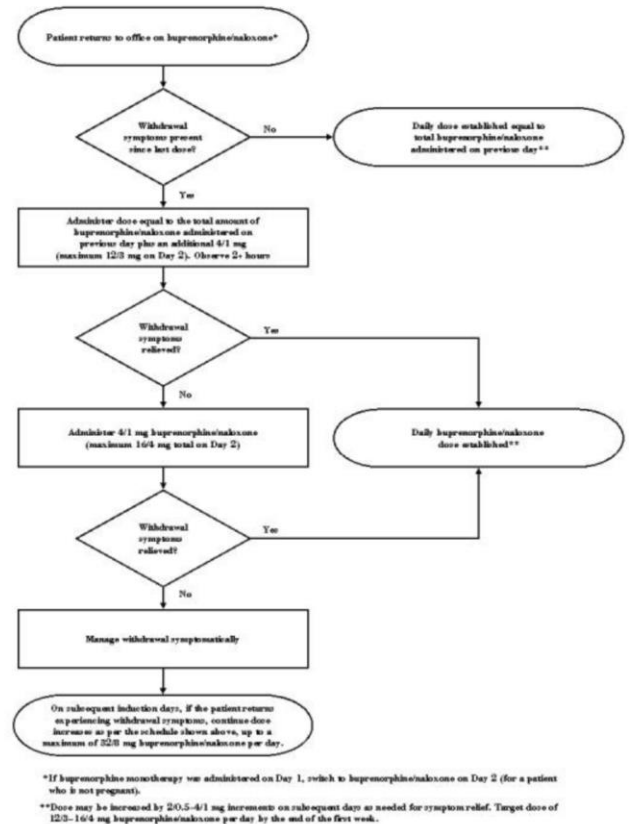


Figure 4-2. Induction Day 2 Forward

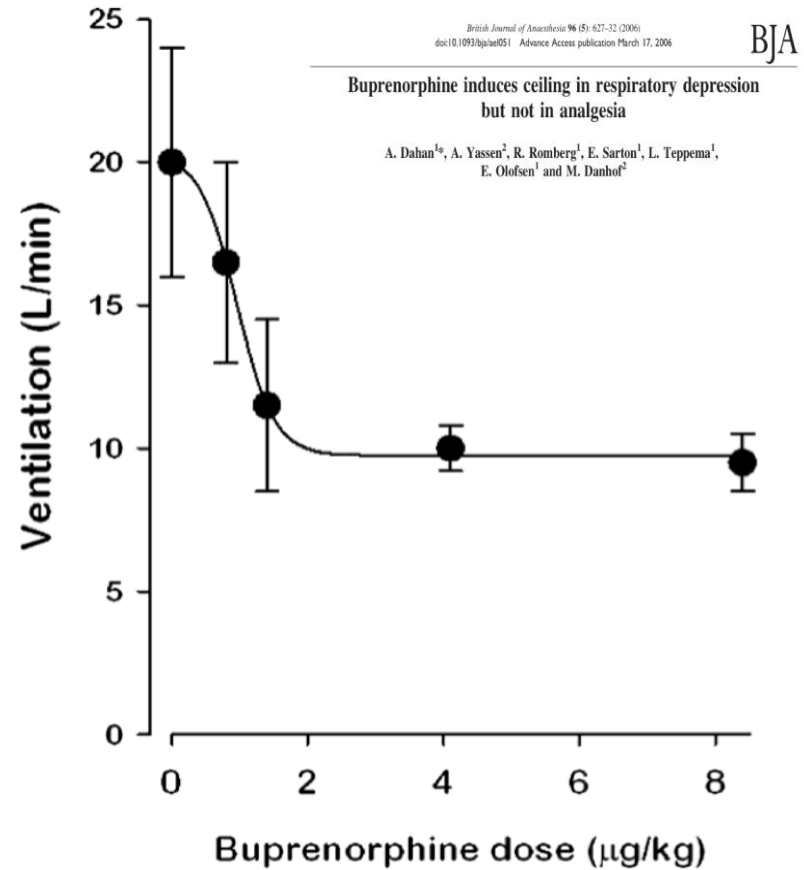
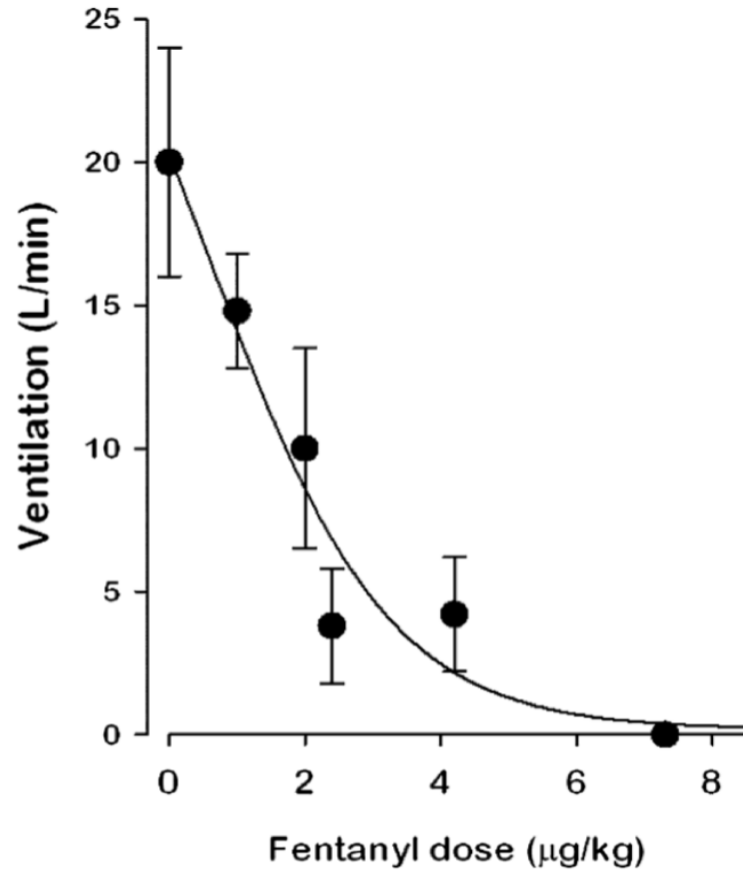
# Problems

- Fear of getting it wrong
- Fear of hurting someone
- Frustratingly slow
- Partial treatment
- Tenuous follow up – bounce back

# 2017 – start from scratch

- Make it fast
- Make it last

# Ceiling on Respiratory depression



# Cowan 1977

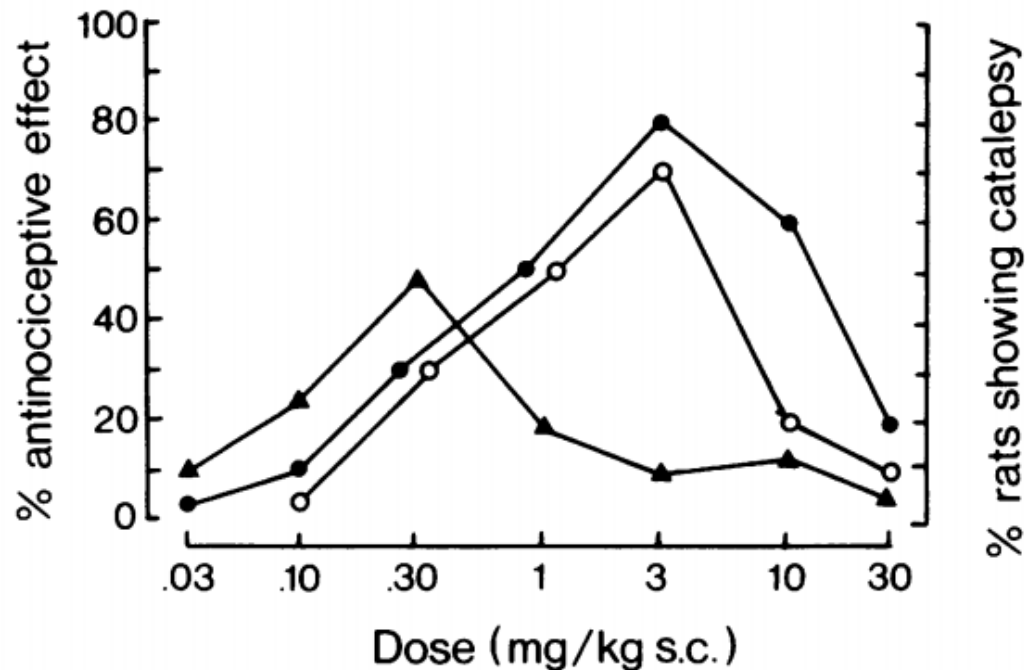
Early  
Observation:  
Bup dose effects  
are not linear

*Br. J. Pharmac.* (1977), **60**, 537–545

## AGONIST AND ANTAGONIST PROPERTIES OF BUPRENORPHINE, A NEW ANTINOCICEPTIVE AGENT

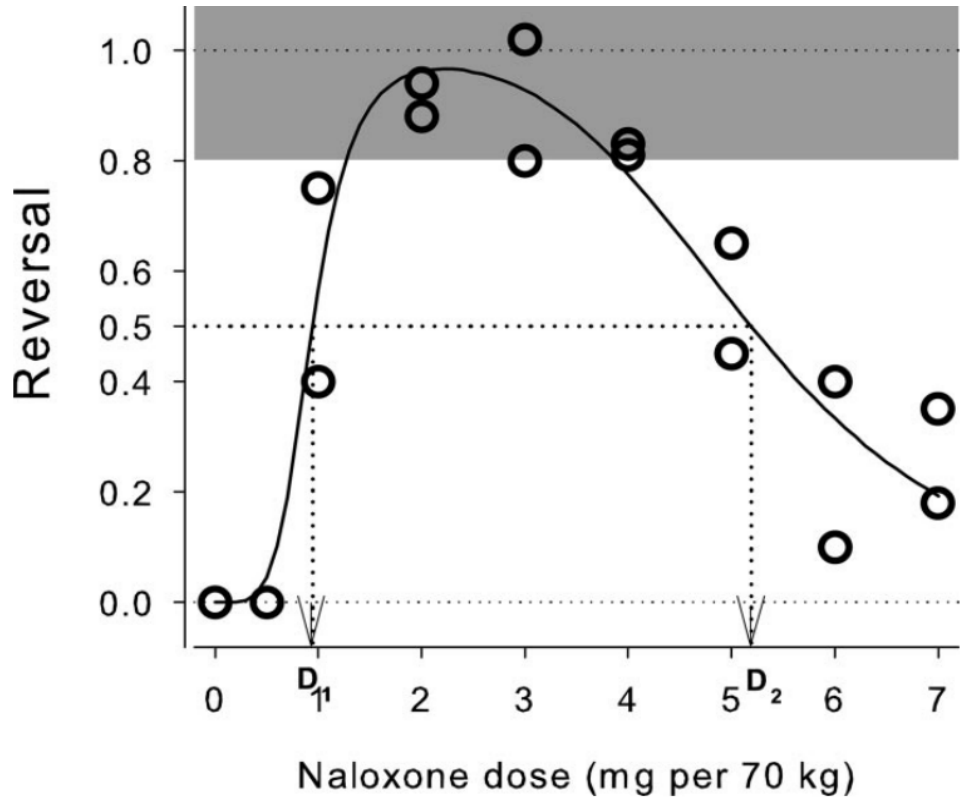
A. COWAN<sup>1</sup>, J.W. LEWIS & I.R. MACFARLANE

Department of Pharmacology, Reckitt & Colman, Dansom Lane, Kingston-upon-Hull HU8 7DS

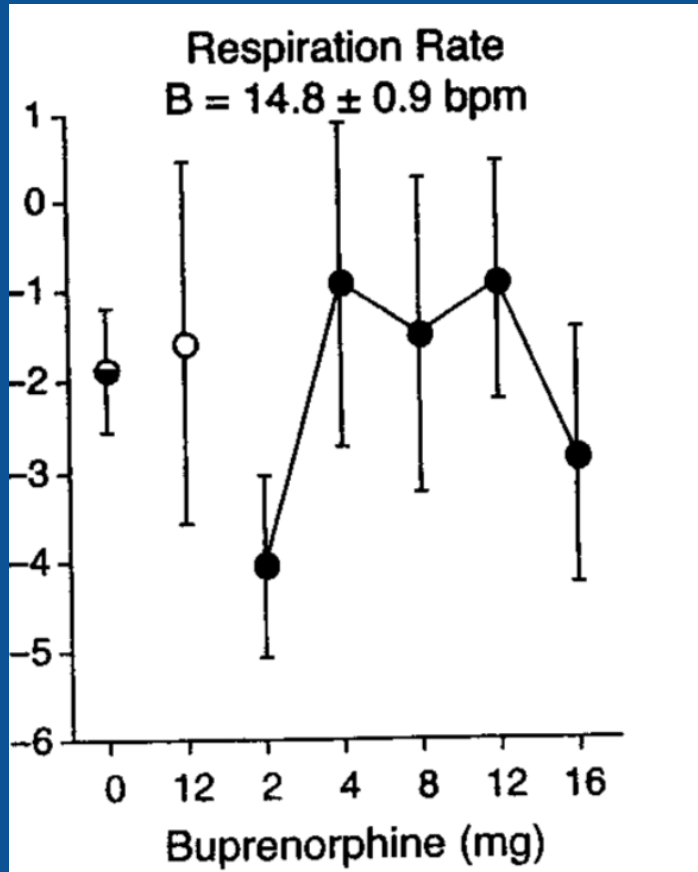


## Naloxone Reversal of Buprenorphine-induced Respiratory Depression

Eveline van Dorp, M.D.,\* Ashraf Yassen, M.Sc.,† Elise Sarton, M.D., Ph.D.,‡ Raymonda Romberg, M.D., Ph.D.,§ Erik Olofsen, M.Sc.,|| Luc Teppema, Ph.D.,# Meindert Danhof, Ph.D.,\*\* Albert Dahan, M.D., Ph.D.††



# Ceiling on Respiratory depression



ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION

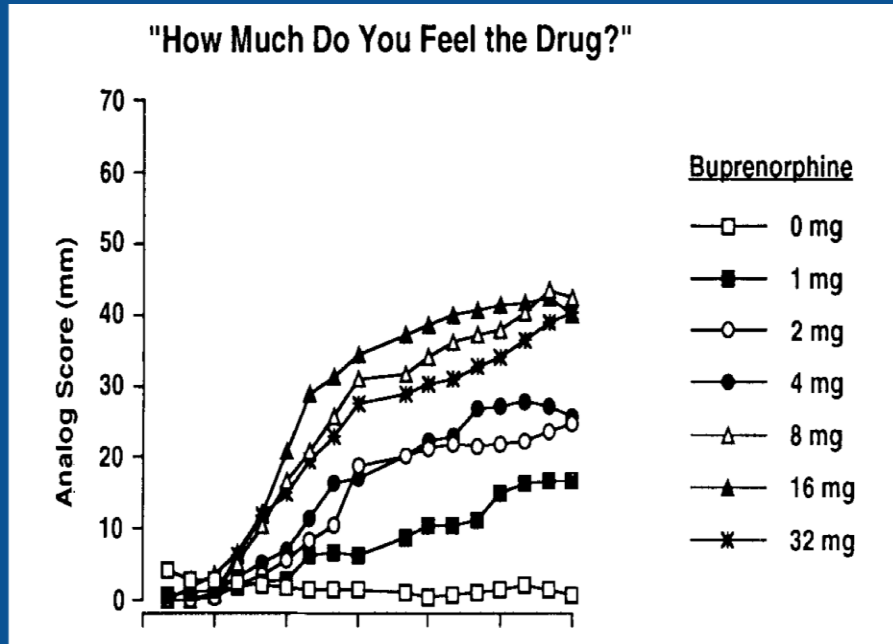
## Effects of High-Dose Intravenous Buprenorphine in Experienced Opioid Abusers

Annie Umbricht, MD,\*<sup>†</sup> Marilyn A. Huestis, PhD,\* Edward J. Cone, PhD,\*<sup>†</sup> and Kenzie L. Preston, PhD\*

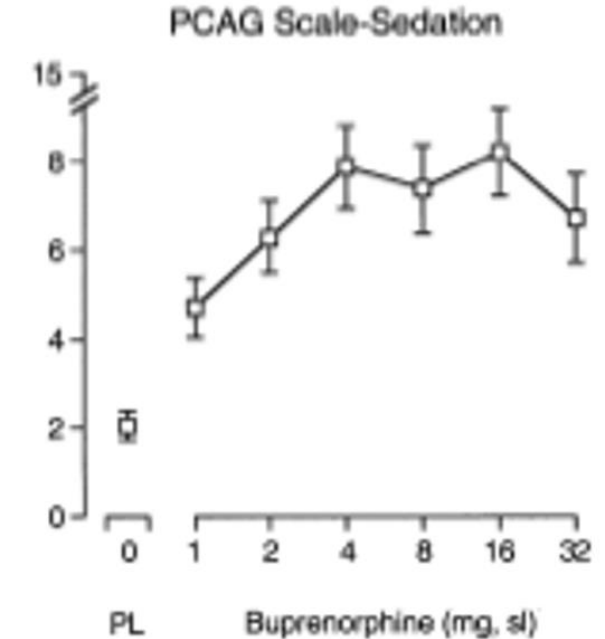
Bup 16 mg IV push  
Non-dependent subjects



# Ceiling on sedation



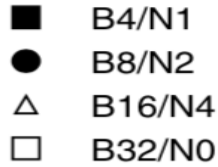
Clinical pharmacology of buprenorphine:  
Ceiling effects at high doses



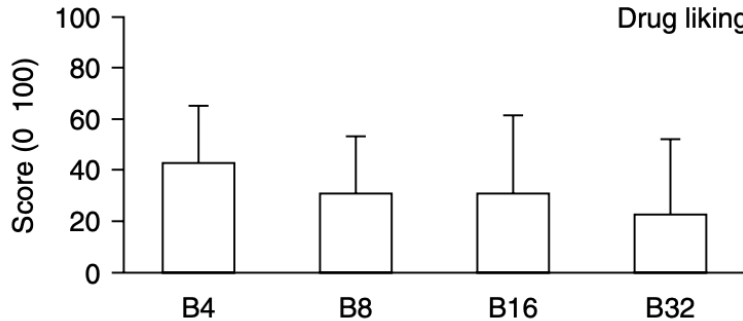
Walsh, Sharon L., et al. "Clinical pharmacology of buprenorphine: ceiling effects at high doses." *Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics* 55.5 (1994): 569-580.

Tablet

Buprenorphine



Drug liking



ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

Clin Pharmacokinet 2004; 43 (5): 329-340  
0312-9963/04/0005-0329/\$31.00/0  
© 2004 Adis Data Information BV. All rights reserved.

## Pharmacokinetics and Subjective Effects of Sublingual Buprenorphine, Alone or in Combination with Naloxone

### Lack of Dose Proportionality

Debra S. Harris,<sup>1</sup> John E. Mendelson,<sup>1</sup> Emil T. Lin,<sup>2</sup> Robert A. Upton<sup>2</sup> and Reese T. Jones<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Drug Dependence Research Center, Langley Porter Psychiatric Institute, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, California, USA

<sup>2</sup> Department of Biopharmaceutical Sciences, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, California, USA

No differences were found between dose strengths for most subjective and physiological effects.

# Observations of Ceiling suggest safety

**Avens Publishing Group**

J Addiction Prevention

February 2016 Vol.:4, Issue:1

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## Instant Detoxification of Heroin with High Dose of Buprenorphine

**Keywords:** Buprenorphine; Single high dose; Heroin detoxification

### Abstract

**Background:** Heroin dependence is a raising problem.

**Objective:** To investigate the effect of a single dose of 120 mg of buprenorphine for the detoxification of heroin dependence.

**Results:** A single dose of 120 mg of buprenorphine is very useful for the treatment of heroin dependents.

**Discussion:** This study describes that one high dose of buprenorphine is beneficial for the management of heroin dependence. This finding is outstanding.

**Conclusion:** We concluded that a single high dose of buprenorphine may treat heroin withdrawal symptoms very well. This finding is a considerable addition to the literature of heroin detoxification.

Open Access

Case Report



## Journal of Addiction & Prevention

**Jamshid Ahmadi\***

*Substance Abuse Research Center, Department of Psychiatry,  
Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Iran*

### \*Address for Correspondence

Jamshid Ahmadi, Professor and Founding Director, Substance Abuse Research Center, Department of Psychiatry, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran, Tel/Fax: +98-71-3627 93 19; E-mail: Jamshid\_Ahmadi@yahoo.com

**Submission:** 08 February, 2016

**Accepted:** 16 February, 2016

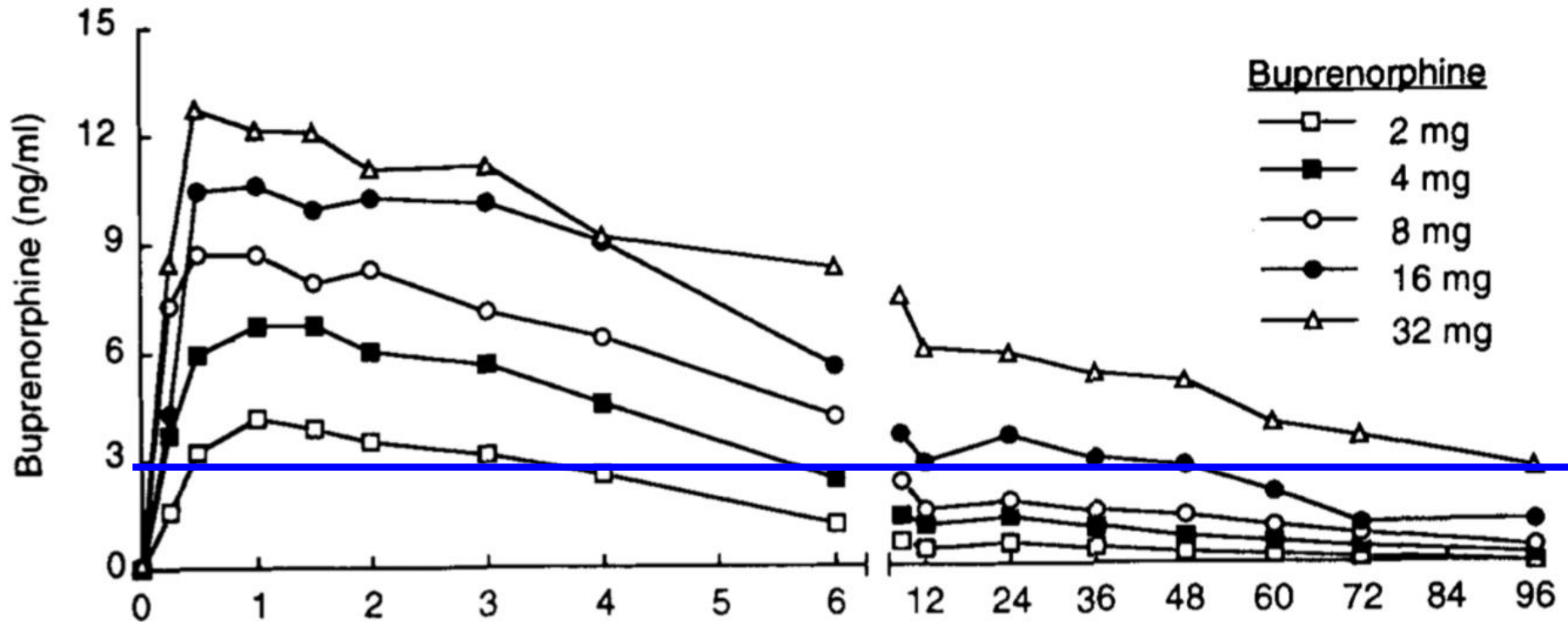
**Published:** 20 February, 2016

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**Reviewed & Approved by:** Dr. Thomas Heffernan, Department of Psychology and Faculty of Life and Health Sciences, Northumbria University, UK

Pain and Craving Scale of measurement: 0-1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10.

# Long lasting effects to bridge early challenges after discharge



Walsh, Sharon L., et al. "Clinical pharmacology of buprenorphine: ceiling effects at high doses." *Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics* 55.5 (1994): 569-580.

# Alternate day dosing: 44mg SL



ELSEVIER

Drug and Alcohol Dependence 55 (1999) 157–163

**DRUG and  
ALCOHOL**   
**DEPENDENCE**

## Plasma concentrations of buprenorphine 24 to 72 hours after dosing

M.C. Chawarski <sup>a,\*</sup>, R.S. Schottenfeld <sup>a</sup>, P.G. O'Connor <sup>b</sup>, J. Pakes <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *Department of Psychiatry, CMHC/SAC, Suite S214, Yale University School of Medicine, 34 Park Street, New Haven, CT 06519, USA*

<sup>b</sup> *Department of Medicine, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, USA*

Received 15 January 1998; accepted 3 December 1998

Short communication

## Limits to buprenorphine dosing: a comparison between quintuple and sextuple the maintenance dose every 5 days

Anke Gross <sup>a,\*</sup>, Eric A. Jacobs <sup>a,1</sup>, Nancy M. Petry <sup>a,2</sup>,  
Gary J. Badger <sup>b</sup>, Warren K. Bickel <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Substance Abuse Treatment Center, University of Vermont, 1 South Prospect Street, Burlington, VT 05401, USA

<sup>b</sup> Department of Psychiatry and Department of Psychology, Medical Statistics, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05401, USA

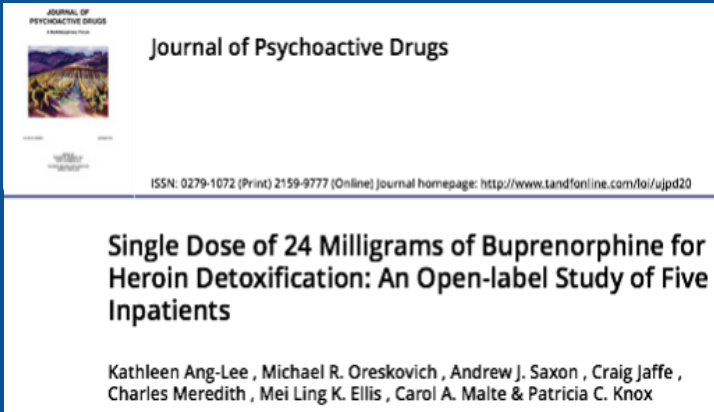
Received 2 May 2000; received in revised form 15 November 2000; accepted 15 November 2000

**14 subjects**

**Maximum dose 76mg**

- + Subjective withdrawal after 96 hours**
- + No objective withdrawal at 120 hours**

# Detoxification



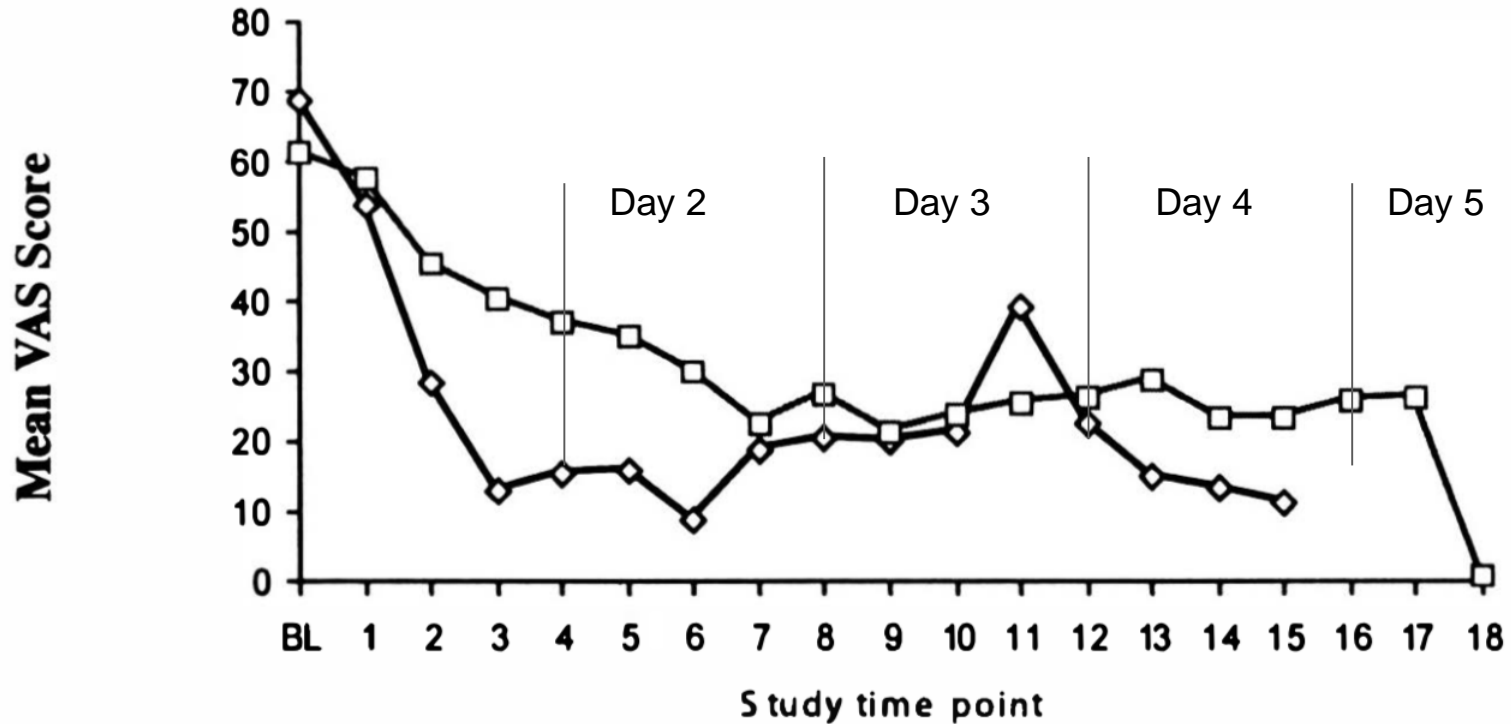
## Rapid Heroin Detoxification Using a Single High Dose of Buprenorphine

Ilan Kutz & Victor Reznik (2001), Journal of Psychoactive Drugs, 33:2, 191-193, DOI: 10.1080/02791072.2001.10400484

**10 Heroin addicted patients abstinent for 24 hours**  
**32mg liquid buprenorphine over 20 minutes**  
8mg given every 5 minutes

# VAS score of withdrawal intensity

24mg x 1 vs 8mg daily x 3 days SL BUP





# Precipitated Withdrawal Risk

Strain 1995

**Condition:** Methadone 30mg Daily  
**Exposure:** Buprenorphine 0.5-8mg IM 2 hrs after methadone

*“Less withdrawal was seen at the lowest (0.5 mg) and highest (8 mg) doses. These results suggest that higher doses of buprenorphine produce less antagonist effects and may be better tolerated than moderate doses in methadone maintained patients, when given at a short time interval.”*

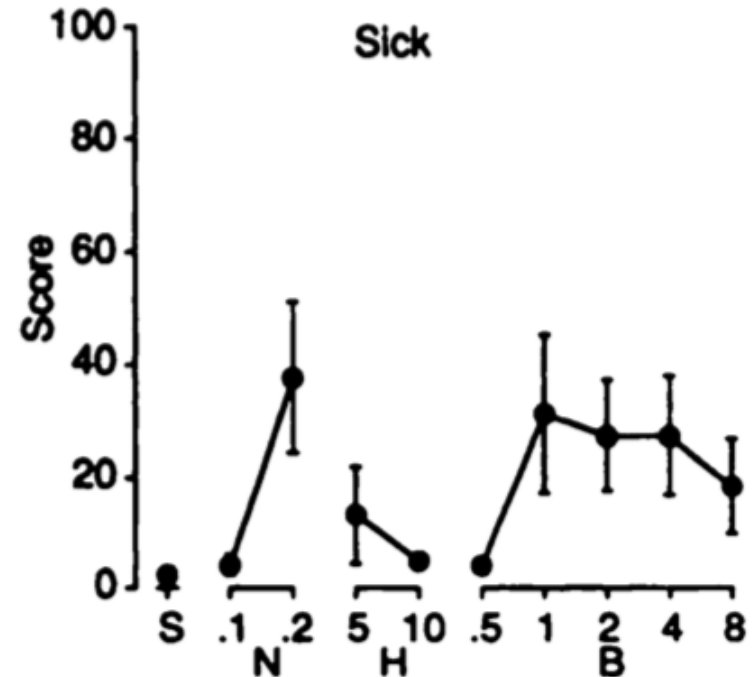
*“The present demonstration of diminished antagonist effects of buprenorphine at higher doses may be an example of noncompetitive autoinhibition.”*

## Buprenorphine Effects in Methadone-Maintained Volunteers: Effects at Two Hours after Methadone<sup>1</sup>

ERIC C. STRAIN,<sup>2</sup> KENZIE L. PRESTON,<sup>3</sup> IRA A. LIEBSON<sup>2</sup> and GEORGE E. BIGELOW<sup>2</sup>

Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland

Accepted for publication October 26, 1994



# Schuh 1996

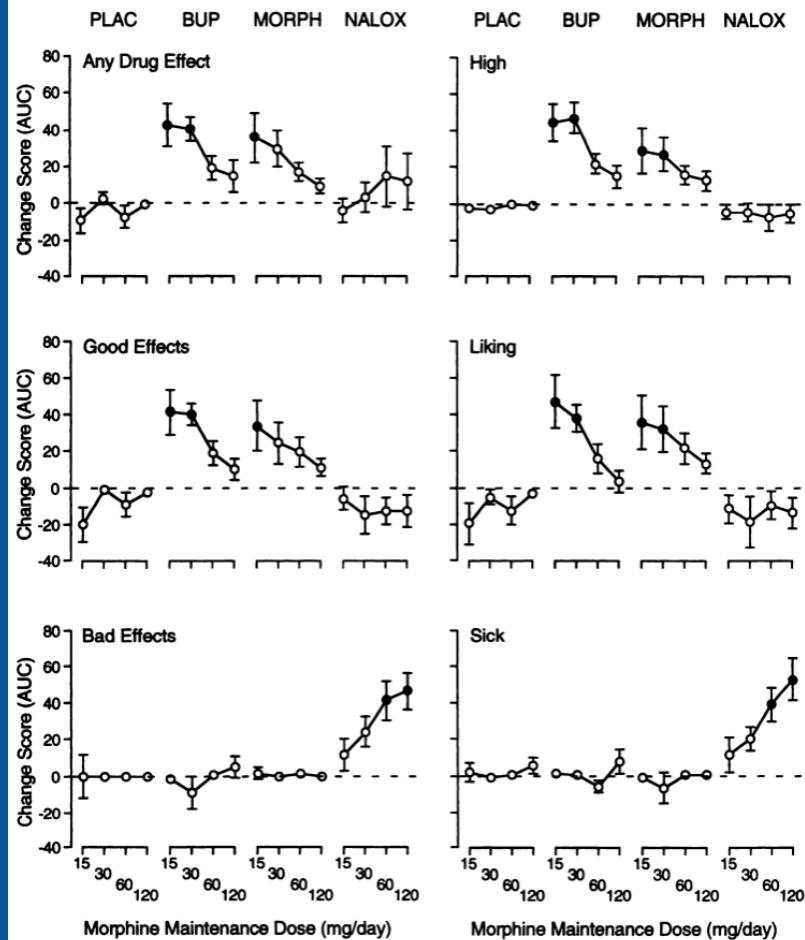
0022-3565/96/2782-0836\$00.00/0  
THE JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY AND EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS  
Copyright © 1996 by The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics  
JPET 278:836-846, 1996

Vol. 278, No. 2  
Printed in U.S.A.

## Buprenorphine, Morphine and Naloxone Effects during Ascending Morphine Maintenance in Humans<sup>1</sup>

KORY J. SCHUH,<sup>2</sup> SHARON L. WALSH, GEORGE E. BIGELOW, KENZIE L. PRESTON and MAXINE L. STITZER  
Behavioral Pharmacology Research Unit, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland  
Accepted for publication April 22, 1996

**Condition:**  
Morphine 120mg IM daily  
**Exposure:** Buprenorphine 6mg IM  
5 hrs after 30mg Morph IM  
**Result:** No precipitated withdrawal



# Fudala 1998

**Condition:** Morphine 60mg daily (15mg IM QID)

**Exposure:** Buprenorphine 2mg IV 4 hours after morphine

**Result:** No precipitated withdrawal



ELSEVIER

Drug and Alcohol Dependence 50 (1998) 1-8

**DRUG and  
ALCOHOL  
DEPENDENCE**

## Effects of buprenorphine and naloxone in morphine-stabilized opioid addicts<sup>1</sup>

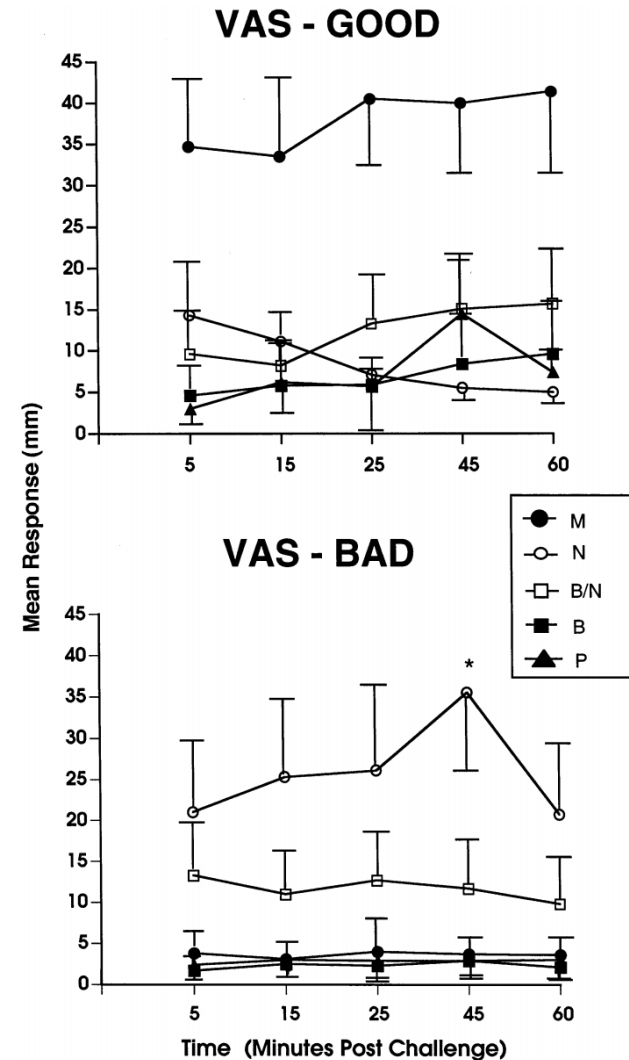
Paul J. Fudala <sup>a,\*</sup>, Elmer Yu <sup>a</sup>, Wayne Macfadden <sup>a</sup>, Chris Boardman <sup>b</sup>, C. Nora Chiang <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Psychiatry, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine/Building 15 - Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, University and Woodland Avenues, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA

<sup>b</sup> Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, USA

<sup>c</sup> National Institute on Drug Abuse, Medications Development Division, Rockville, MD, USA

Received 2 July 1997; accepted 18 October 1997



# Mendelson 1999

Psychopharmacology (1999) 141: 37-46

## ORIGINAL INVESTIGATION

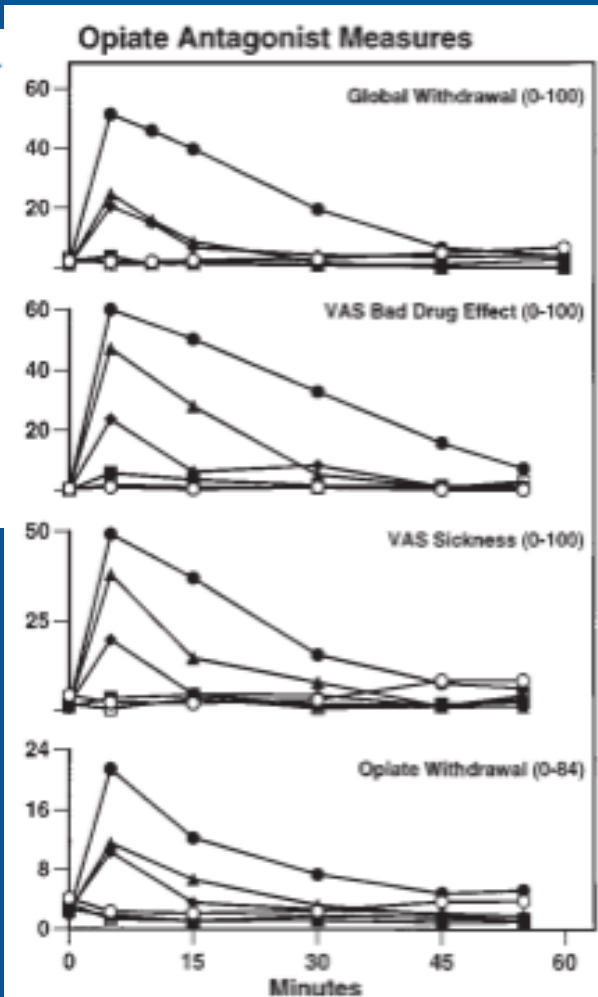
John Mendelson · Reese T. Jones · Susette Welm  
Matthew Baggott · Isabella Fernandez  
Ann K. Melby · Rajneesh P. Nath

### Buprenorphine and naloxone combinations: the effects of three dose ratios in morphine-stabilized, opiate-dependent volunteers

Received: 9 February 1998/Final version: 8 May 1998

Fig. 1 Time course of subject-rated opiate agonist and antagonist effects. Each data point represents mean values for 12 subjects (*Time* = baseline value).

Buprenorphine (2 mg) □, buprenorphine (2 mg) and naloxone (1 mg) ●, buprenorphine (2 mg) and naloxone (0.5 mg) ▲, buprenorphine (2 mg) and naloxone (0.25 mg) ◆, morphine (15 mg) ■, and placebo ○



**Condition:** IM morphine, 60mg daily. Morphine was administered in four 15mg doses at 0600, 1100, 1600, and 2200.

**Exposure:** IV buprenorphine 2 mg and naloxone placebo 4 hours after IM Morphine

**Result:** No precipitated withdrawal

# Stoller 2001

Psychopharmacology (2001) 154:230–242  
DOI 10.1007/s002130000637

## ORIGINAL INVESTIGATION

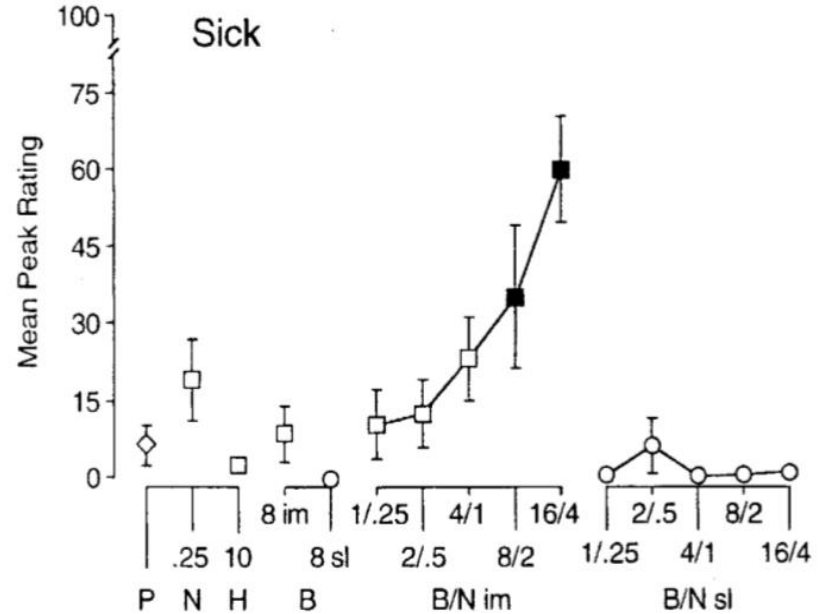
Kenneth B. Stoller · George E. Bigelow  
Sharon L. Walsh · Eric C. Strain

### Effects of buprenorphine/naloxone in opioid-dependent humans

**Condition:** Hydromorphone 10mg PO  
QID (40mg/d)

**Exposure:** Buprenorphine 8mg IM and SL  
3 h after the last dose of hydromorphone

**Result: No Precipitated Withdrawal.**



# Rosado 2007

*Drug Alcohol Depend.* 2007 October 8; 90(2-3): 261–269.

## **Sublingual Buprenorphine/Naloxone Precipitated Withdrawal in Subjects Maintained on 100 mg of Daily Methadone\***

**James Rosado**<sup>1,2</sup>, **Sharon L. Walsh**<sup>1,3</sup>, **George E. Bigelow**<sup>1</sup>, and **Eric C. Strain**<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Behavioral Pharmacology Research Unit, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, 5510 Nathan Shock Drive, Baltimore, MD 21224 USA*

<sup>2</sup>*Miami Dade College, Wolfson Campus, 300 N.E. 2nd Avenue, Suite 3506-3, Miami, FL 33132-2297 USA*

<sup>3</sup>*Department of Behavioral Sciences, University of Kentucky, 515 Oldham Court, Lexington, KY 40502 USA*

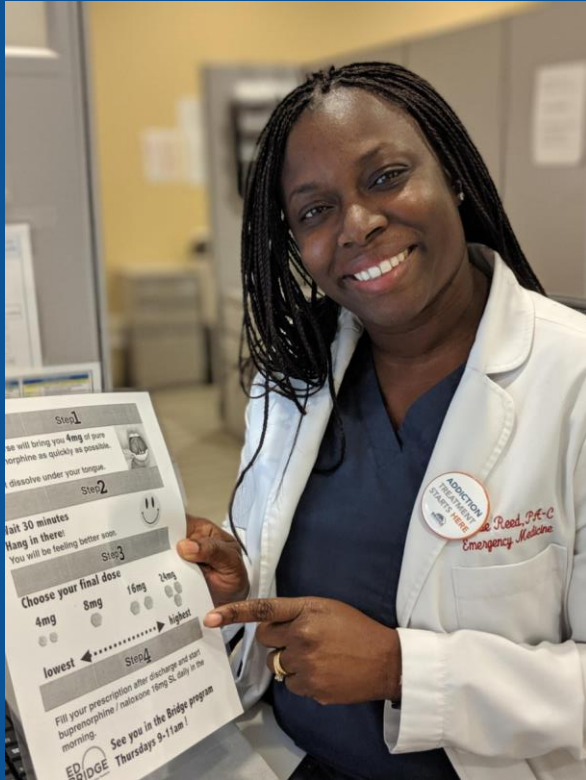
# What dose precipitates withdrawal?

- *16 subjects – 100mg Methadone daily*
- *6 dropped out*
- *3 / 10 tolerated up to 32 mg SL*
- *4 @ 4mg*
- *2 @ 8mg*
- *1 @ 16mg*

2017 – Starting from scratch

# Carpe Diem!

- Make it fast and simple  
Make it last



**Step1 2-8mg** 

The nurse will bring you pure buprenorphine as quickly as possible.

We usually start with a single 8mg tablet

If you are a heavy user with a big habit consider starting with two (16 mg)



**\*\*Let the tablet dissolve under your tongue.\*\***

**Step2 wait**

Wait 15-30 minutes... **HANG IN THERE!**

You will be feeling better soon!



**Step3 Final dose**

Choose your final TOTAL dose



**Step4 Rest & Relax**

Pick up your prescription after discharge and start buprenorphine/naloxone as prescribed the next morning.



# The protocol is patient directed dosing:

“How much buprenorphine would you like?”

4mg



8mg



16mg



32 mg



Guidance: high-dose best for heavier user in more severe withdrawal

## Starting Buprenorphine (Bup), "Subs," Suboxone

### Step 1

### Wait

0-----6 hours ----- **12 hours**

Last use

### Step 2

### Withdrawal (start when you feel sick)

0-----5----- **10**

Feel fine

**Very Sick**

### Step 3

### First Dose



4mg

Light user



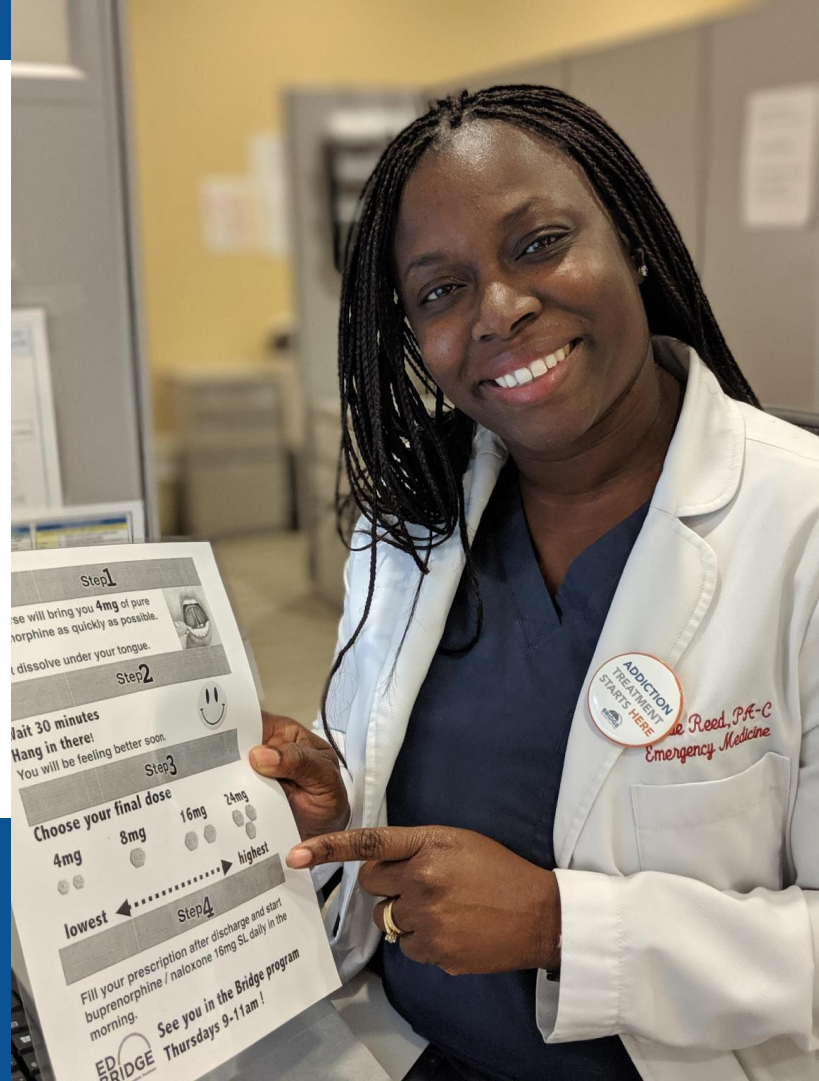
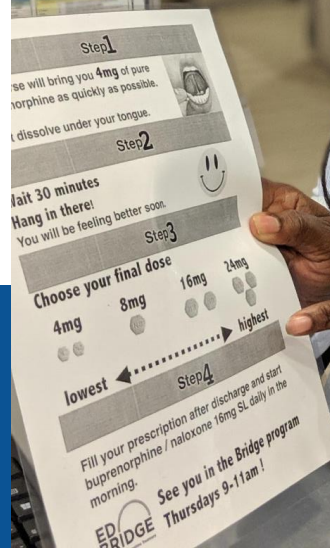
8mg

Medium heroin



16mg

Heavy heroin





**Original Investigation** | Substance Use and Addiction

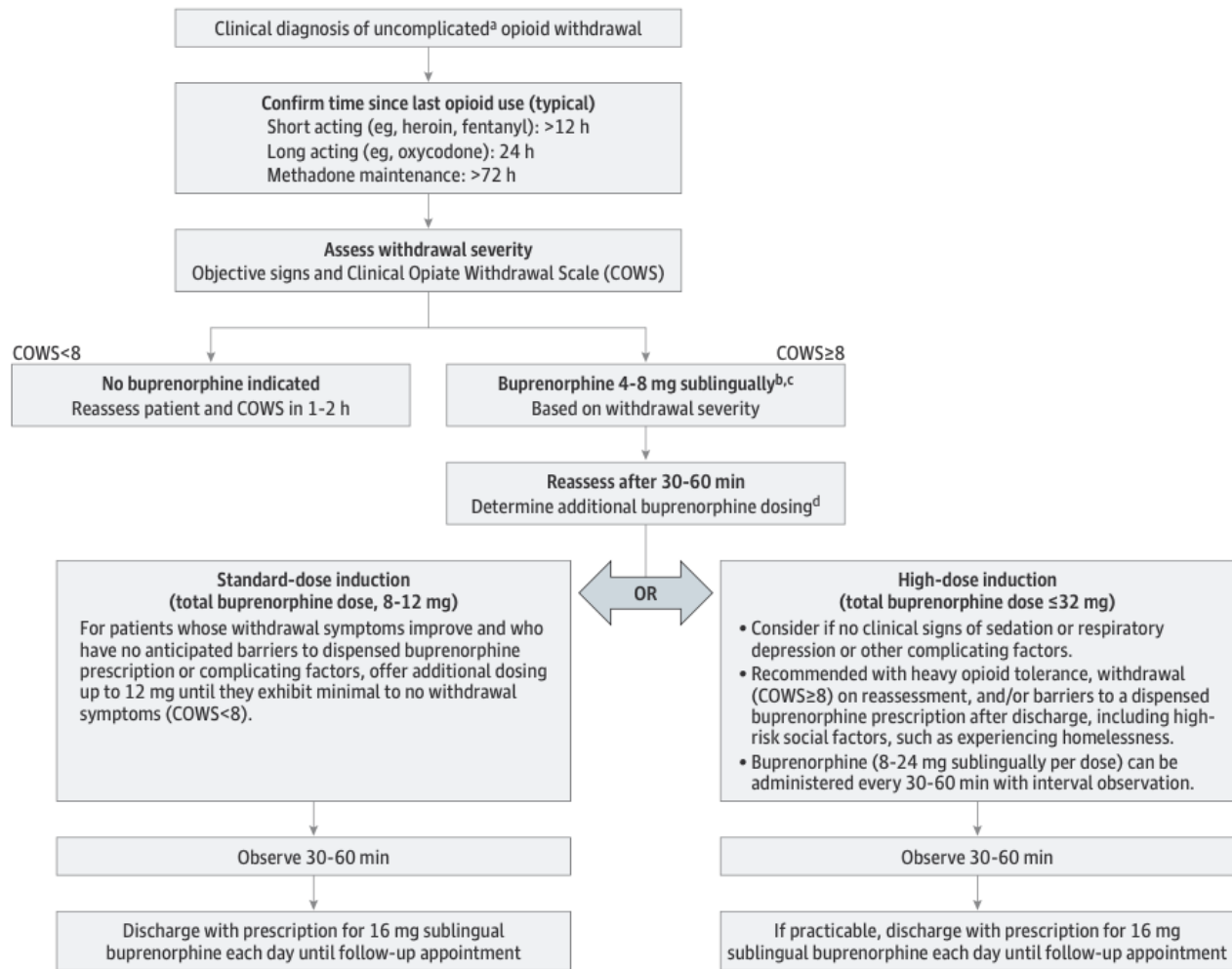
# High-Dose Buprenorphine Induction in the Emergency Department for Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder

Andrew A. Herring, MD; Aidan A. Vosooghi, MS; Joshua Luftig, PA; Erik S. Anderson, MD; Xiwen Zhao, MS; James Dziura, PhD; Kathryn F. Hawk, MD, MHS; Ryan P. McCormack, MD, MS; Andrew Saxon, MD; Gail D'Onofrio, MD, MS

## Retrospective case series

Examined the safety and tolerability of high-dose (>12mg) buprenorphine induction for patients with OUD presenting to an ED.

Figure 1. High-Dose Buprenorphine Treatment Pathway



## Measures:

What are all the ways BUP can go wrong?

Precipitate withdrawal – COWS

Excessive agonism – Opiate 32 scale (Schuster),  
clinical observation and vital signs

“Side effects” – OR SDS ( nausea, itch, headache)

Table 1. Baseline Demographic and Clinical Characteristics of Patients Receiving Sublingual Buprenorphine Induction for Opioid Use Disorder

Characteristic	Patients, No. (%) (n = 391)
Sex	
Male	267 (68.3)
Female	124 (31.7)
Age, y	
18-25	38 (9.7)
26-34	138 (35.3)
35-44	93 (23.8)
45-54	60 (15.3)
55-64	48 (12.3)
65-73	14 (3.6)
Race <sup>a</sup>	
Black	170 (43.5)
White	148 (37.8)
Other race <sup>b</sup>	73 (18.7)
Ethnicity <sup>a</sup>	
Hispanic or Latino	57 (14.6)
Non-Hispanic or non-Latino	334 (85.4)
Insurance status	
Medi-Cal	274 (70.1)
Medicare	26 (6.7)
Military	1 (0.3)
Other public insurance	12 (3.1)
Private	23 (5.9)
No insurance	49 (12.5)
Homeless <sup>c</sup>	
Yes	88 (22.5)
No	303 (77.5)
Psychiatric diagnosis <sup>d</sup>	
Yes	161 (41.2)
No	230 (58.8)
Buprenorphine exposure history <sup>e</sup>	
No	209 (53.5)
Yes	176 (45.0)
Emergency department visits, No. <sup>f</sup>	
1	292 (74.7)
2-4	86 (22.0)
5-14	13 (3.3)

# Summary

- 579 cases, 391 unique patients
- 59 providers
- 68% male
- Racial/ethnically diverse
- Safety net
  - > 80% Medi-Cal or no payer
  - > 20% homeless
- 40% with psychiatric dx
- 50% had bup before

**Table 2. Clinical Characteristics of Sublingual Buprenorphine Induction for Opioid Use Disorder During Emergency Department Visits**

Characteristic	Total buprenorphine dose sublingual						P value <sup>a</sup>
	2-6 mg (n = 55)	8 mg (n = 136)	10-12 mg (n = 22)	16 mg (n = 106)	20-24 mg (n = 122)	≥28 mg (n = 138)	
Systolic blood pressure, median (IQR), mm Hg							
At triage	133 (120-150)	132 (120-150)	132 (110-140)	128 (120-140)	128 (120-150)	130 (120-140)	.75
Maximum	135 (130-160)	140 (130-160)	140 (130-150)	133 (120-150)	134 (120-150)	142 (120-160)	.48
Minimum	118 (110-130)	117 (110-130)	103 (97-130)	116 (100-130)	116 (110-130)	121 (110-140)	.83
Respiratory rate, median (IQR), breaths/min							
At triage	18 (16-18)	18 (16-18)	18 (16-18)	18 (16-18)	18 (17-18)	18 (17-18)	.26
Maximum	18 (18-18)	18 (18-20)	18 (17-18)	18 (18-20)	18 (18-20)	18 (18-20)	.23
Minimum	16 (15-17)	16 (16-18)	16 (16-17)	16 (16-18)	16 (16-18)	16 (16-18)	.08
Heart rate, median (IQR), beats/min							
At triage	84 (70-98)	89.5 (78-100)	87 (81-94)	83.5 (75-95)	88 (80-100)	87 (79-99)	.16
Maximum	87 (77-100)	92.5 (82-100)	88 (76-98)	90 (80-100)	95.5 (87-100)	96.5 (81-100)	.73
Minimum	71 (63-80)	76 (68-85)	64 (60-84)	77 (66-86)	80 (70-89)	76 (71-88)	.26
Temperature, °F	98 (97-98)	97.8 (97-98)	97.6 (97-98)	97.5 (97-98)	97.9 (97-98)	97.8 (97-98)	.24
Oxygen saturation, median (IQR), %							
At triage	99 (98-100)	99 (98-100)	98 (97-100)	99 (98-100)	99 (98-100)	99 (98-100)	.29
Maximum	100 (99-100)	99 (99-100)	100 (98-100)	99 (98-100)	99 (98-100)	99 (99-100)	.13
Minimum	97 (96-99)	98 (97-99)	96 (96-96)	97.5 (96-98)	97.5 (96-99)	97.5 (96-99)	.25
Supplemental oxygen, patients, No. (%)	6 (11)	3 (2.2) <sup>b</sup>	1 (4.5)	4 (3.8)	2 (1.6) <sup>b</sup>	1 (0.72) <sup>b</sup>	.01
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease diagnosis, patients, No. (%)	17 (2.9)	2 (3.6)	3 (2.2)	1 (4.5)	4 (3.8)	2 (1.6)	.76
Emergency Severity Index, patients, No. (%)							
1	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	
2	7 (13)	9 (6.6)	0 (0)	5 (4.7)	4 (3.3)	5 (3.6)	
3	24 (44)	38 (28)	5 (23)	31 (29)	38 (31)	33 (24)	.10
4	15 (27)	63 (46)	11 (50)	46 (43)	64 (52)	81 (59)	
5	9 (16)	26 (19)	6 (27)	24 (23)	16 (13)	19 (14)	
Length of stay, median (IQR), h	3.5 (2.4-5.8)	2.6 (1.7-4.4) <sup>b</sup>	2.6 (2.1-3.7)	2.1 (1.5-3.5) <sup>b,c</sup>	2.2 (1.4-3.3) <sup>b</sup>	2.3 (1.7-3.6) <sup>b</sup>	.002
Clinician type, No. (%)							
Advance practice provider	22 (40)	72 (53)	15 (68) <sup>b</sup>	64 (60) <sup>b</sup>	87 (71) <sup>b,c</sup>	99 (72) <sup>b,c</sup>	<.001 <sup>d</sup>
Medical doctor	33 (60)	64 (47)	7 (32)	42 (40)	35 (29)	39 (28)	
Adverse events, No. (%)							
Precipitated withdrawal	0	4 (2.9)	0	0	0	1 (0.7)	.20
Hospitalization	5 (9.1)	4 (2.9)	1 (4.5)	3 (2.8)	8 (6.6)	4 (2.9)	.26
Return to ED within 24 h	2 (3.6)	10 (7.4)	3 (14.0)	9 (8.5)	6 (4.9)	15 (11.0)	.32
Time to return to ED within 24 h, median (IQR), h	13.8 (12-16)	11.4 (5.9-14)	17.8 (11-20)	.4 (6.5-23)	15.1 (13-18)	18.4 (14-22)	.52

# Dose categories

## Mg (N)

2-6 (55)

8 (136)

10-12 (22)

16 (106)

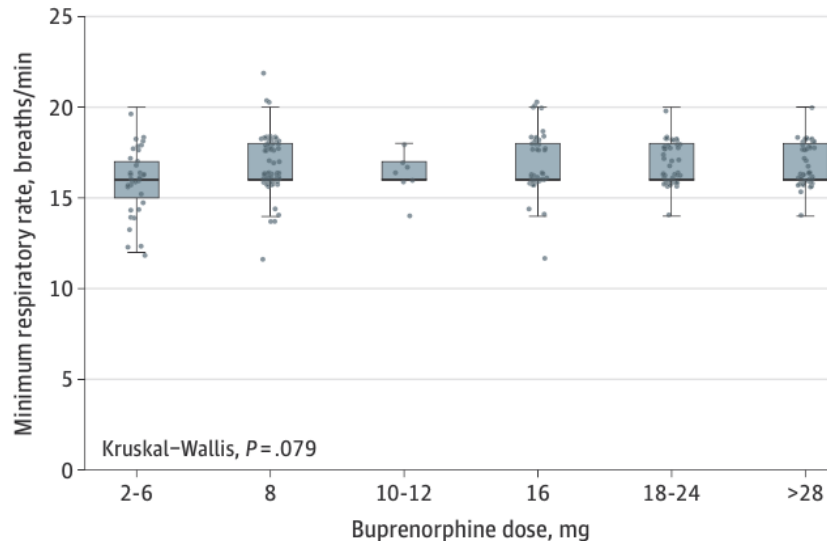
20-24 (122)

≥ 28 (138)

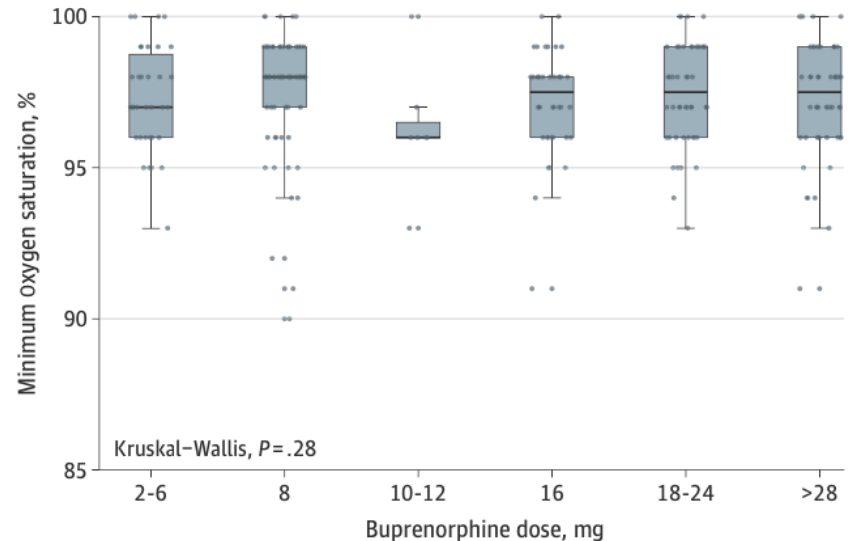
# No observed respiratory depression

Figure 2. Minimum Respiratory Rate and Oxygen Saturation (SpO<sub>2</sub>) Following Initial Dose by Buprenorphine Dose

**A** Minimum respiratory rate



**B** Minimum SpO<sub>2</sub>



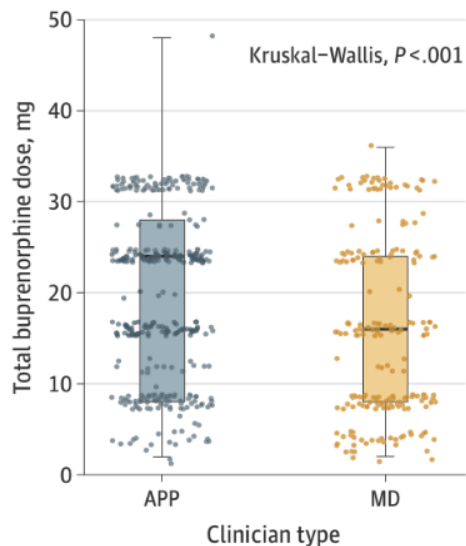
Boxes correspond to 25th and 75th percentiles, with lines in boxes denoting medians. Dots denote outliers. Error bars denote 95% CIs. Kruskal-Wallis test compares distributions of respiratory rate and oxygen saturation across buprenorphine dose categories.



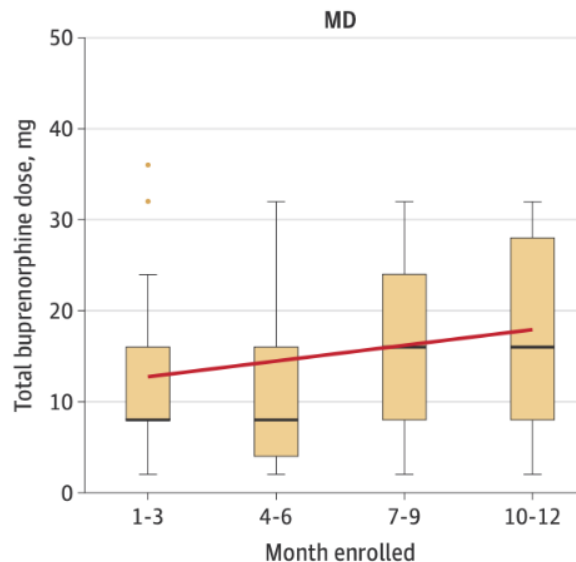
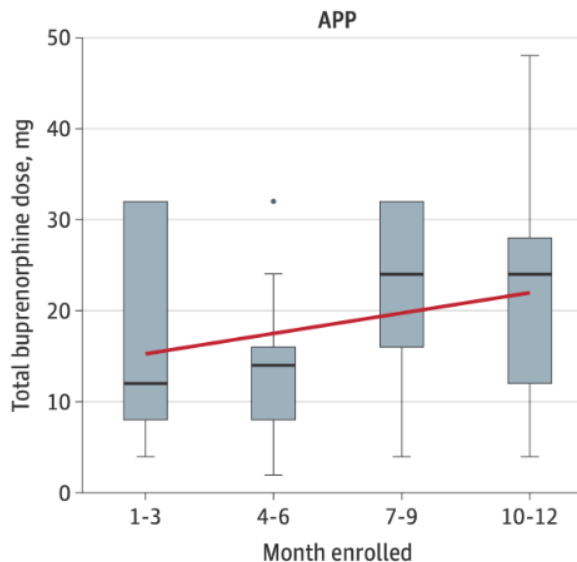
# Patients and providers liked the high-dose option

Figure 3. Buprenorphine Doses Administered by Physicians (MDs) and Advanced Practice Practitioners (APPs)

**A** Total buprenorphine doses administered



**B** Total buprenorphine dose administered per encounter by calendar time





Coordinating OS  
Special Orders by  
All Caregivers  
All orders to be entered into  
the system by  
12/15/15

BRIDGE  
Bridges to Recovery

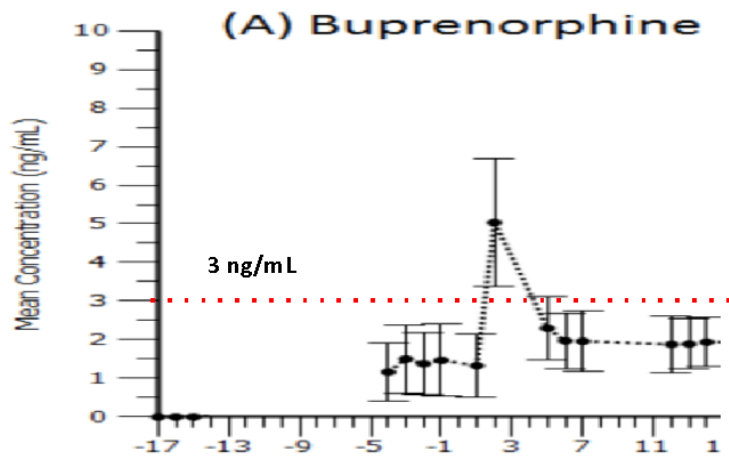
**Need help with  
pain pills or heroin?**  
Ask about trying Buprenorphine.

**BRIDGE**  
Bridges to Recovery

# Injectable Bup is High-dose Bup

## Efficacy and safety of a monthly buprenorphine depot injection for opioid use disorder: a multicentre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial

Barbara R. Hoight, Susan M. Leemed, Celine M. Leffort, Paul J. Fudala, Yue Zhao, Amanda S. Gerofalo, Mark K. Greenwald, Wojciech R. Nadipelli, Walter Ling, Christian Helmsbreder, for the BR-US-13-0001 Study Investigators\*

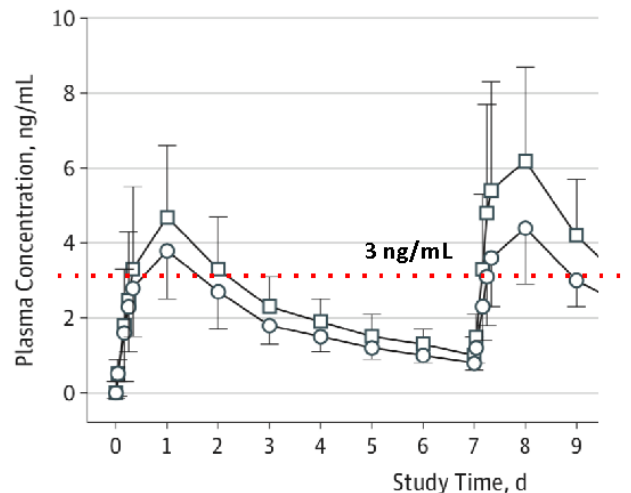


JAMA Psychiatry | Original Investigation

## Effect of Buprenorphine Weekly Depot (CAM2038) and Hydromorphone Blockade in Individuals With Opioid Use Disorder: A Randomized Clinical Trial

Sharon L. Walsh, PhD; Sandra D. Comer, PhD; Michelle R. Lofwall, MD; Bradley Vince, DO; Naama Levy-Cooperman, PhD; Debra Kehli, MD; Marion A. Coe, BA; Jermaine D. Jones, PhD; Paul A. Nuzzo, MA; Friedrich Tizberg, PhD; Behshad Sheldan, BS; Somme Kim, PharmD

**B** Buprenorphine





- **Sublocade 300mg creates steady state average plasma concentrations more than double that of 24mg daily SL buprenorphine**

**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)

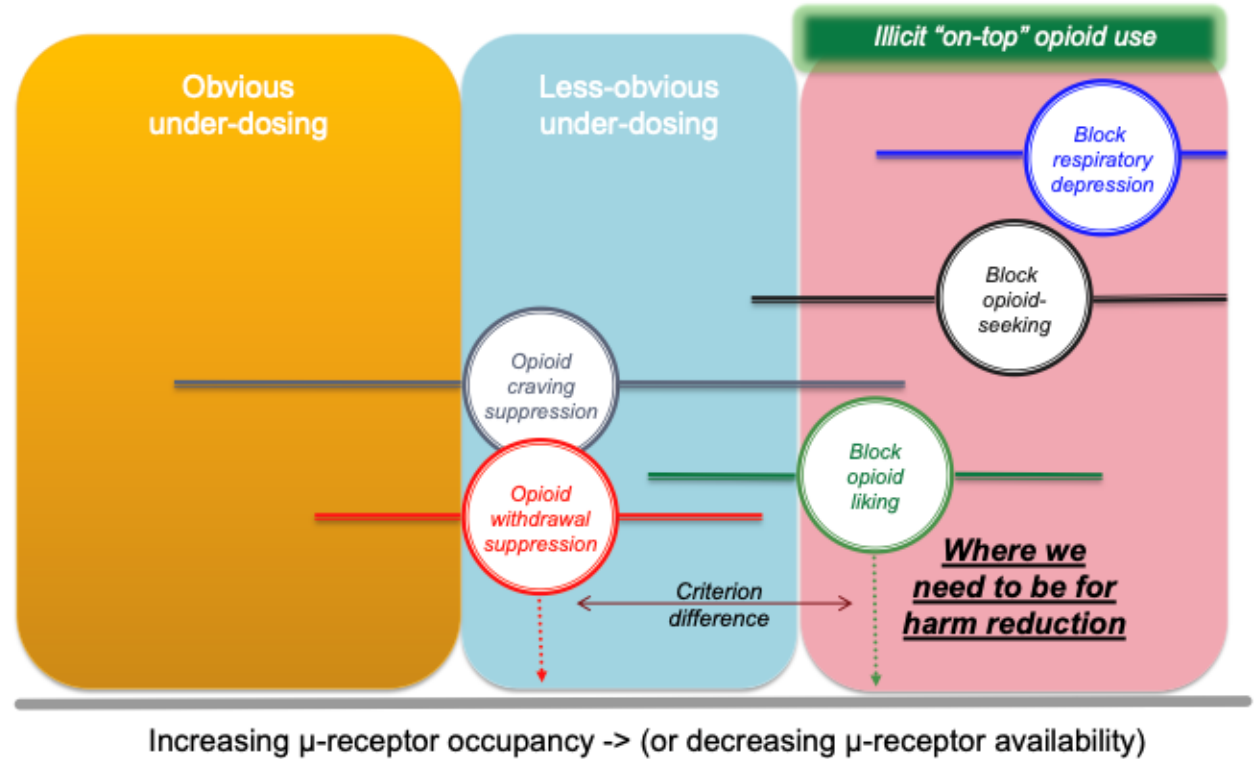
## Open-label trial of a single-day induction onto buprenorphine extended-release injection for users of heroin and fentanyl

John J. Mariani MD<sup>1,2</sup>  | Amy L. Mahony LMHC<sup>1</sup> | Samuel C. Podell BS<sup>3</sup> |  
Daniel J. Brooks LCSW<sup>1</sup> | Christina Brezing MD<sup>1,2</sup> | Sean X. Luo MD, PhD<sup>1,2</sup> |  
Nasir H. Naqvi MD, PhD<sup>1,2</sup> | Frances R. Levin MD<sup>1,2</sup> 

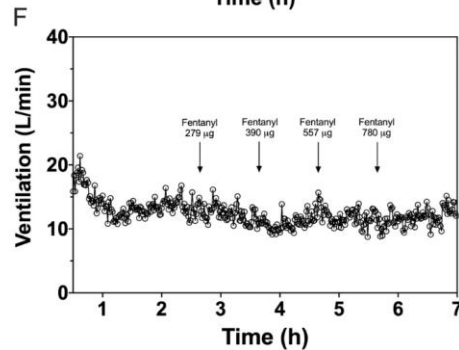
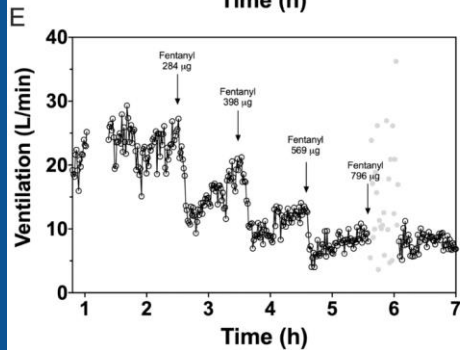
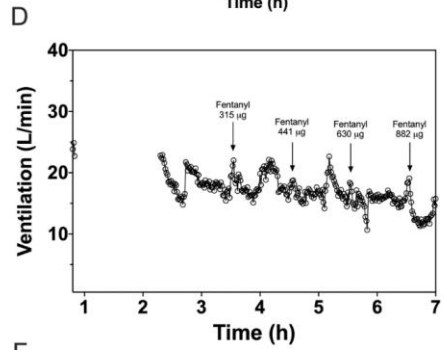
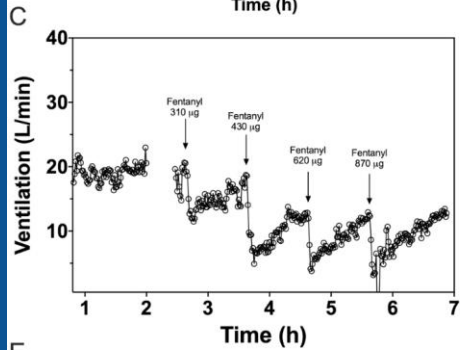
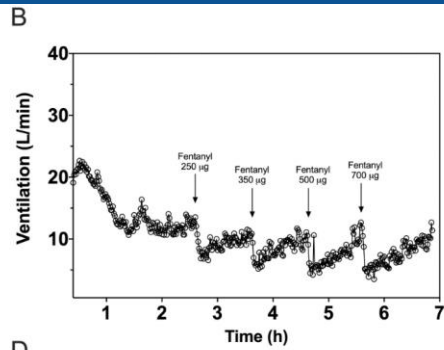
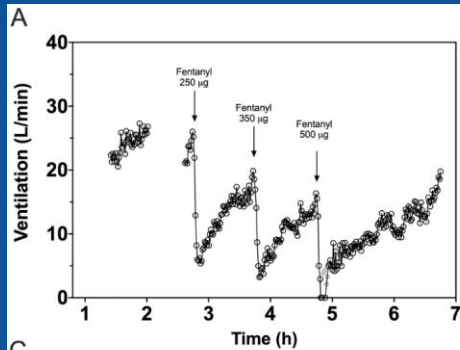
ACP-008	1150	6	
	1240	9	Buprenorphine 2 mg SL
	1330	5	Buprenorphine 6 mg SL
	1415	5	Buprenorphine 8 mg SL
	1500	4	Buprenorphine 8 mg SL
	1530	5	XR-Buprenorphine 300 mg SC

Mariani JJ, Mahony AL, Podell SC, et al. Open-label trial of a single-day induction onto buprenorphine extended-release injection for users of heroin and fentanyl. *Am J Addict.* 2021;1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ajad.13193>

# Estimated ordering and variability of $\mu$ OR occupancy requirements for differing therapeutic thresholds in persons with OUD



Mark Greenwald,  
NIDA  
presentation Nov  
2022



PLOS ONE

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Effect of sustained high buprenorphine plasma concentrations on fentanyl-induced respiratory depression: A placebo-controlled crossover study in healthy volunteers and opioid-tolerant patients

Laurence M. Moss<sup>1,2</sup>, Marijke Hyke Algera<sup>2</sup>, Robert Dobbins<sup>3</sup>, Frank Gray<sup>3</sup>, Stephanie Trafford<sup>3</sup>, Amy Heath<sup>3</sup>, Monique van Velzen<sup>2</sup>, Jules A. A. C. Heuberger<sup>1</sup>, Marieke Niesters<sup>2</sup>, Erik Olofson<sup>2</sup>, Celine M. Laffont<sup>3</sup>, Albert Dahan<sup>2</sup>, Geert Jan Groeneweld<sup>1,2\*</sup>

1 Centre for Human Drug Research (CHDR), Leiden, The Netherlands, 2 Department of Anesthesiology, Leiden University Medical Centre (LUMC), Leiden, The Netherlands, 3 Indivior Inc., North Chesterfield, Virginia, United States of America

\* GGroeneweld@chdr.nl



# Paramedic administered Bup



Contra Costa County  
71 patients  
COWS  $\geq$  7  
First dose 16mg SL  
<50% post naloxone

**32 (45%)**

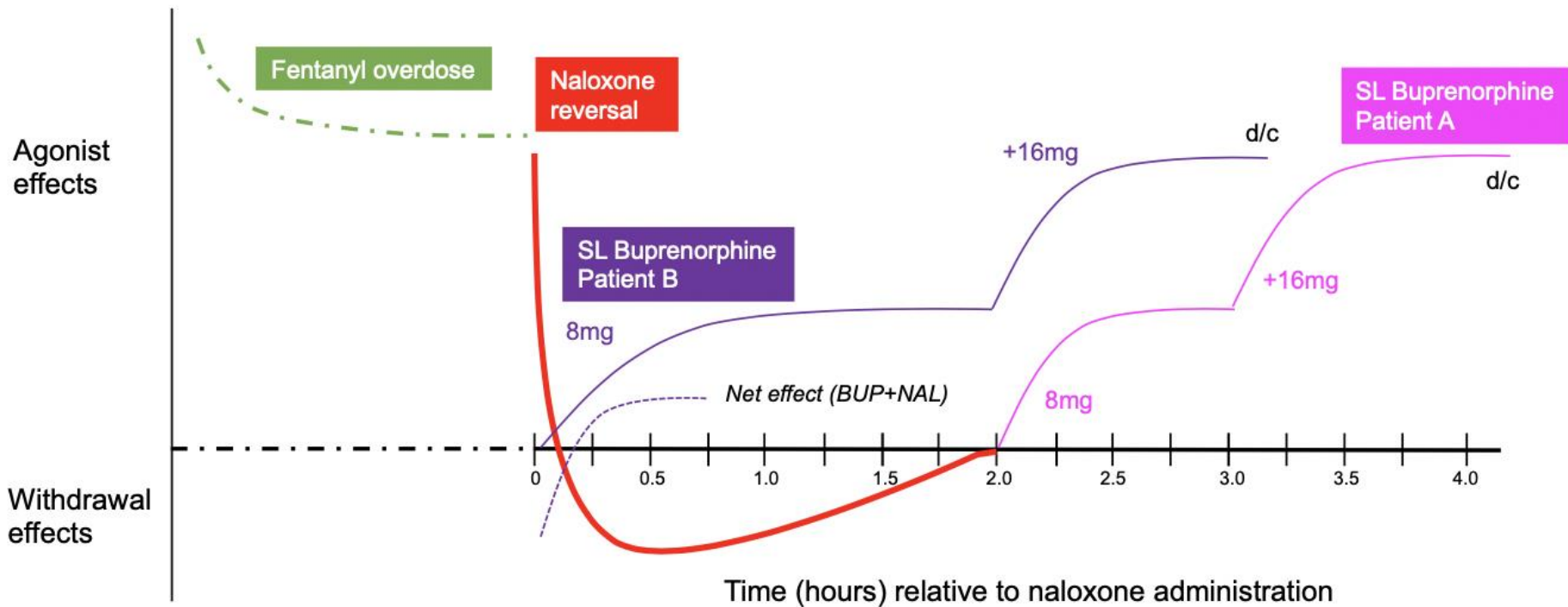
Continued on Bup  
at 7 days

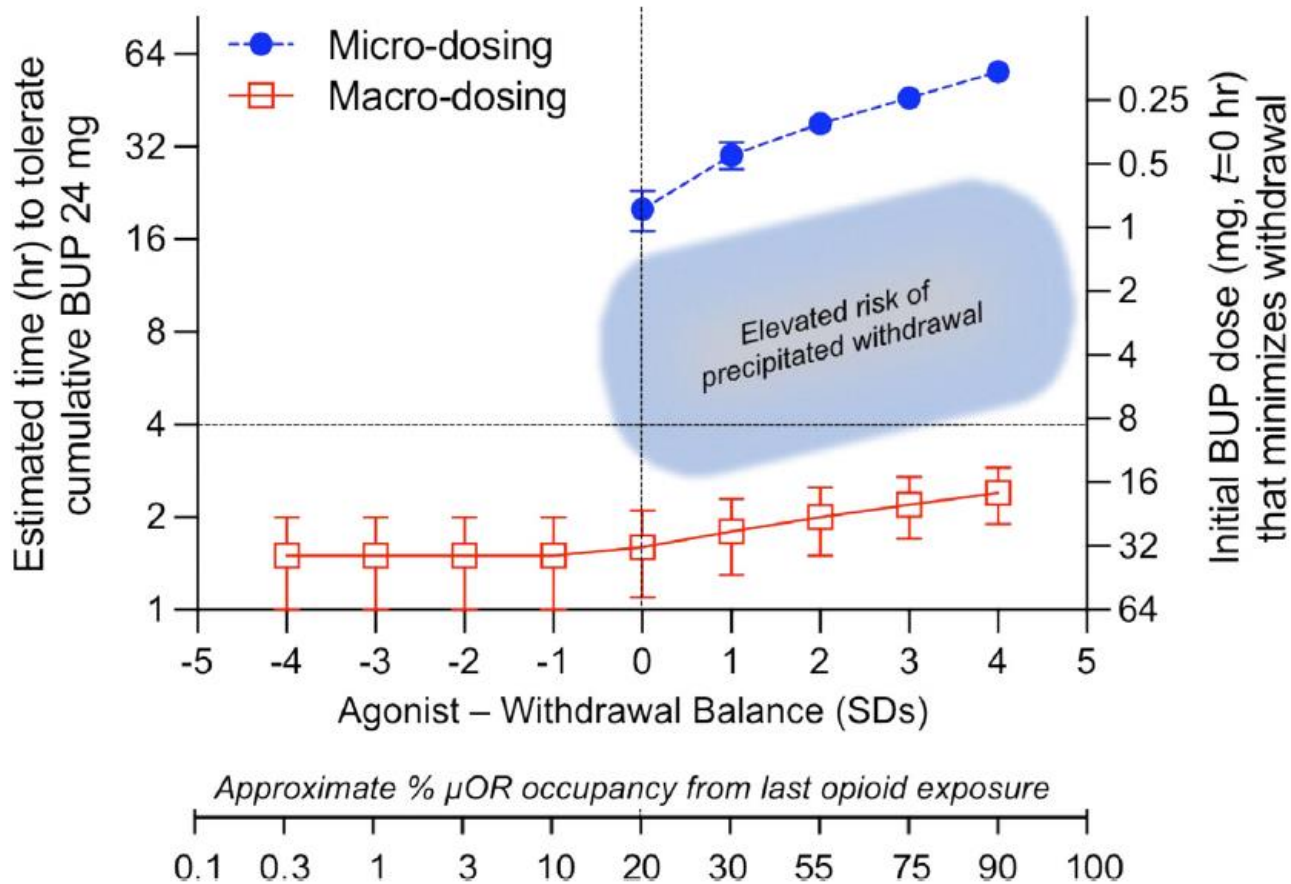
**25 (35%)**

Continued in Bup  
care at 30 days

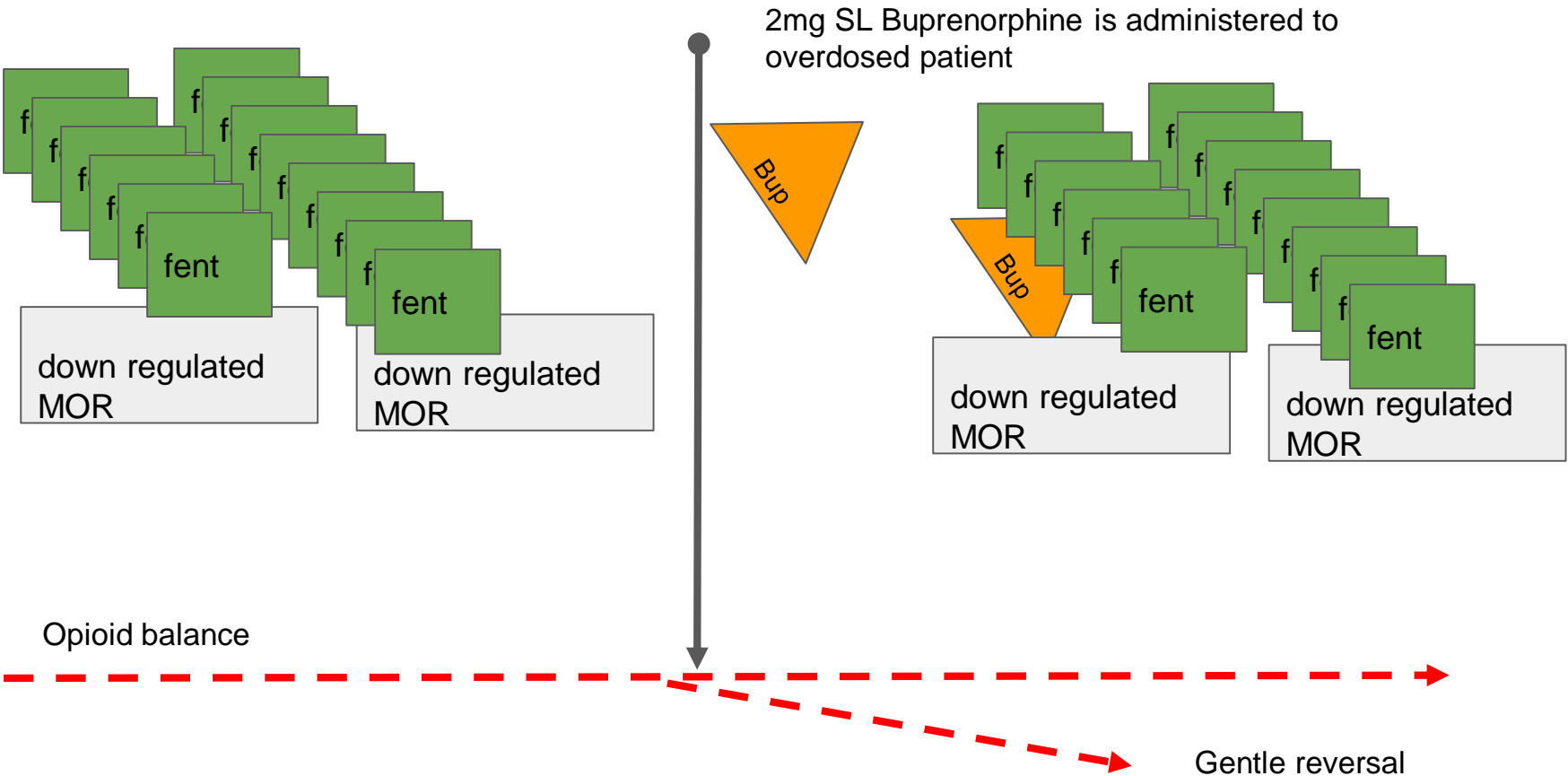


# High-dose Bup after naloxone reversal





# Example 1: Opioid overdose



RESEARCH

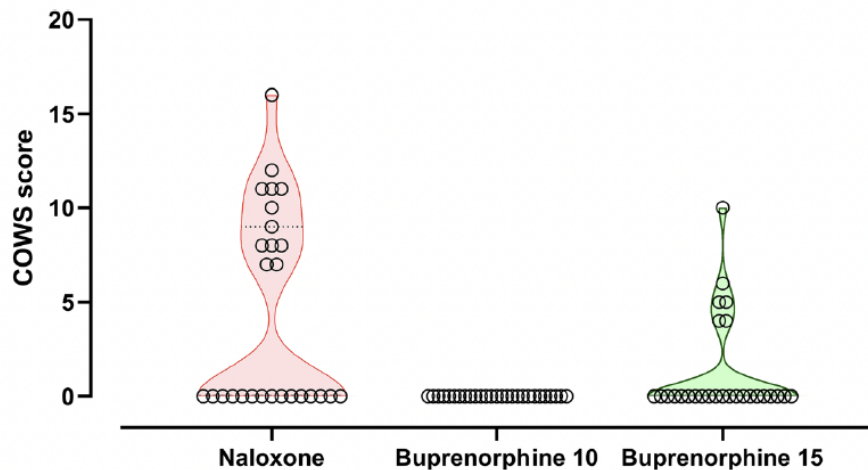
Open Access



# Buprenorphine to reverse respiratory depression from methadone overdose in opioid-dependent patients: a prospective randomized trial

# Using IV Bup to reverse methadone overdose in Tehran

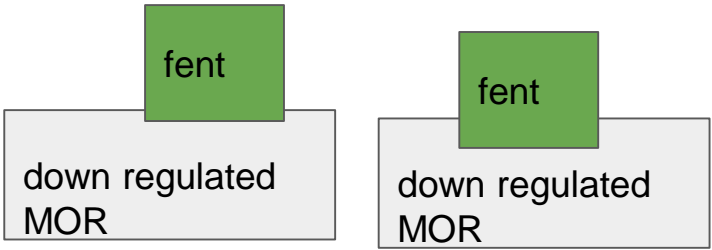
Nasim Zamani<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Nicholas A. Buckley<sup>4</sup> and Hossein Hassanian-Moghaddam<sup>1,2\*</sup>



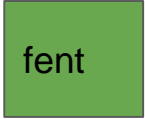
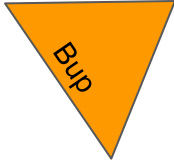
**Fig. 4** Violin and scatter plot of withdrawal scores after initial doses of buprenorphine vs naloxone (COWS scale)

# Ex: 2 Fentanyl wash out

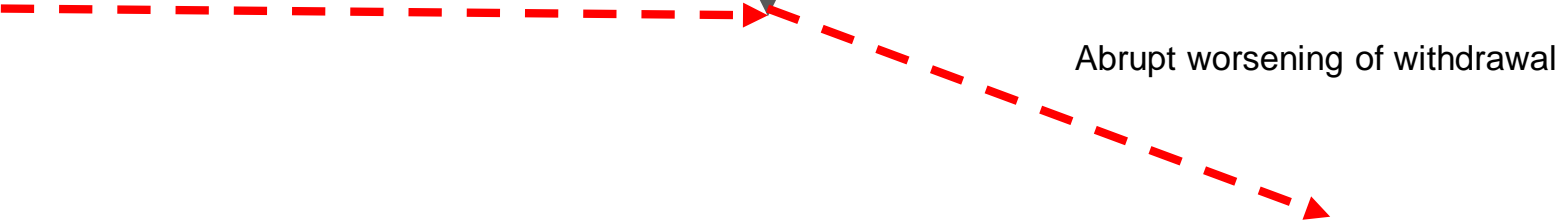
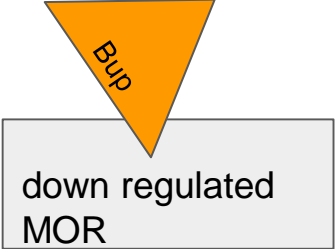
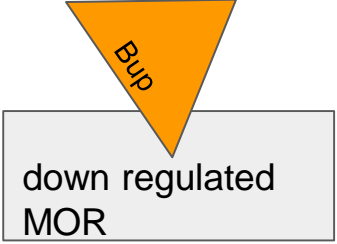
Residual fentanyl metabolites limit tolerance reversal and continue MOR agonism



2mg SL Buprenorphine is administered to a patient 12 hrs after last fentanyl use



Small (not micro) dose of bup produces near complete blockade of fentanyl=abrupt worsening



# Interaction of Fentanyl and Buprenorphine in an Experimental Model of Pain and Central Sensitization in Human Volunteers

Trüster, Andreas MD<sup>1</sup>; Ihmsen, Harald PhD<sup>2</sup>; Singler, Boris MD<sup>1</sup>; Filitz, Jörg MD<sup>1</sup>; Koppert, Wolfgang MD<sup>1</sup>  
Author Information

<sup>1</sup>Department of Anaesthesiology, University Hospital Erlangen, Erlangen

<sup>2</sup>Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany

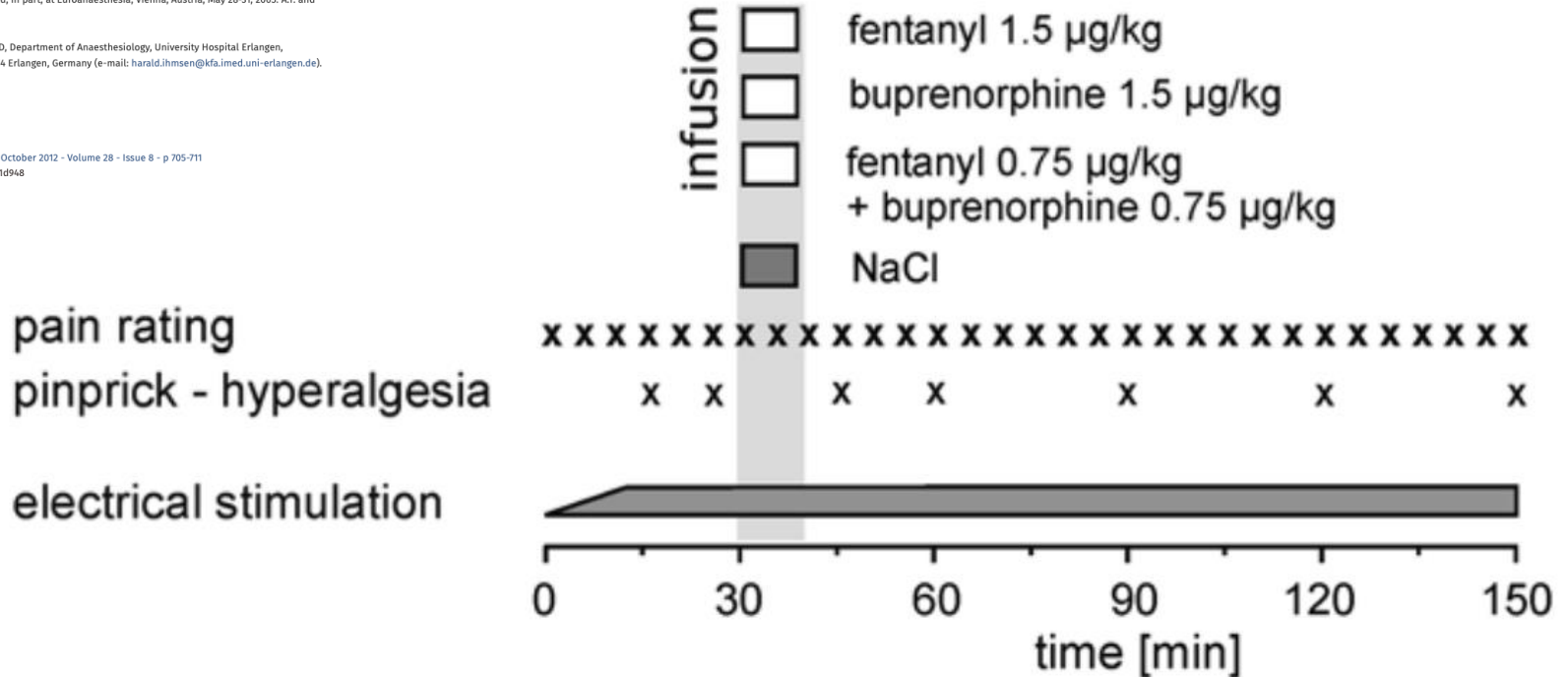
This work was supported by a grant from Grunenthal GmbH, Aachen, Germany. The authors declare no conflict of interest. Presented, in part, at Euroanaesthesia, Vienna, Austria, May 28-31, 2005. A.T. and H.I. contributed equally.

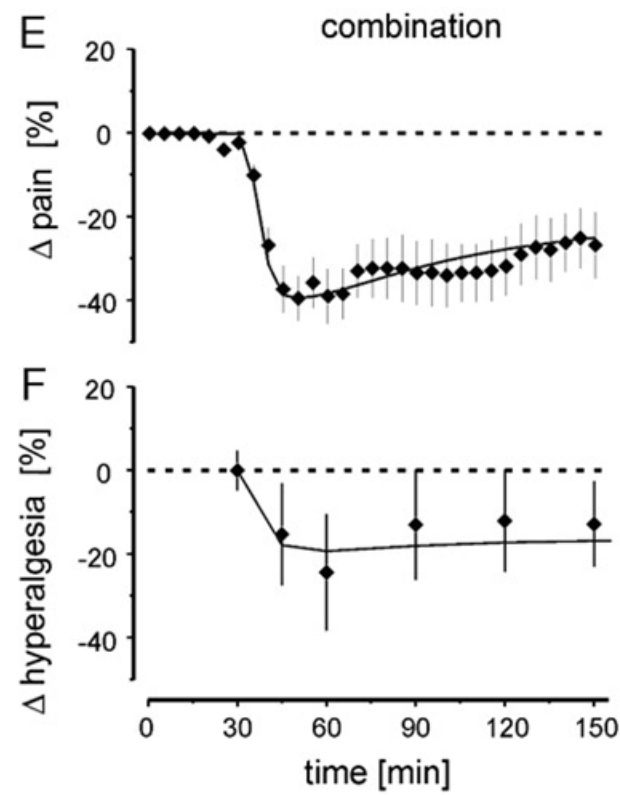
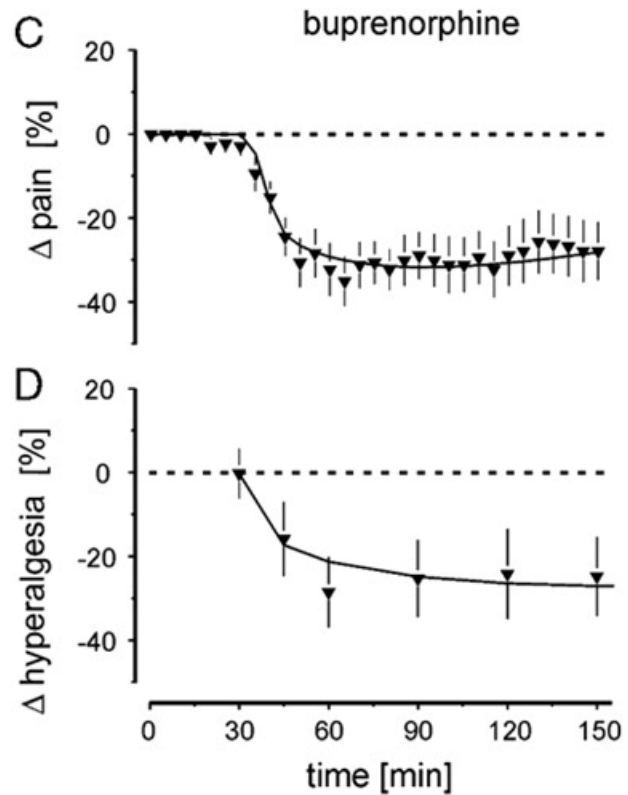
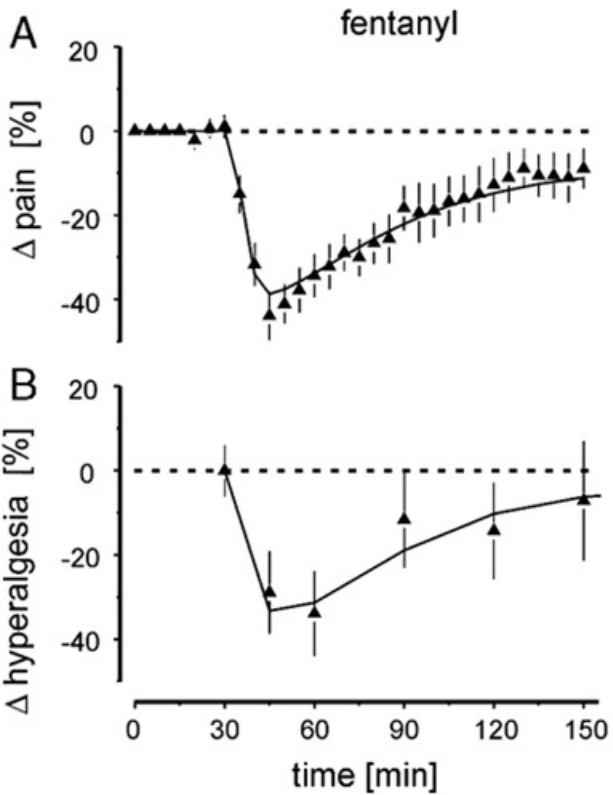
Reprints: Harald Ihmsen, PhD, Department of Anaesthesiology, University Hospital Erlangen, Krankenhausstrasse 12, 91054 Erlangen, Germany (e-mail: harald.ihmsen@kfa.imed.uni-erlangen.de).

Received June 20, 2011

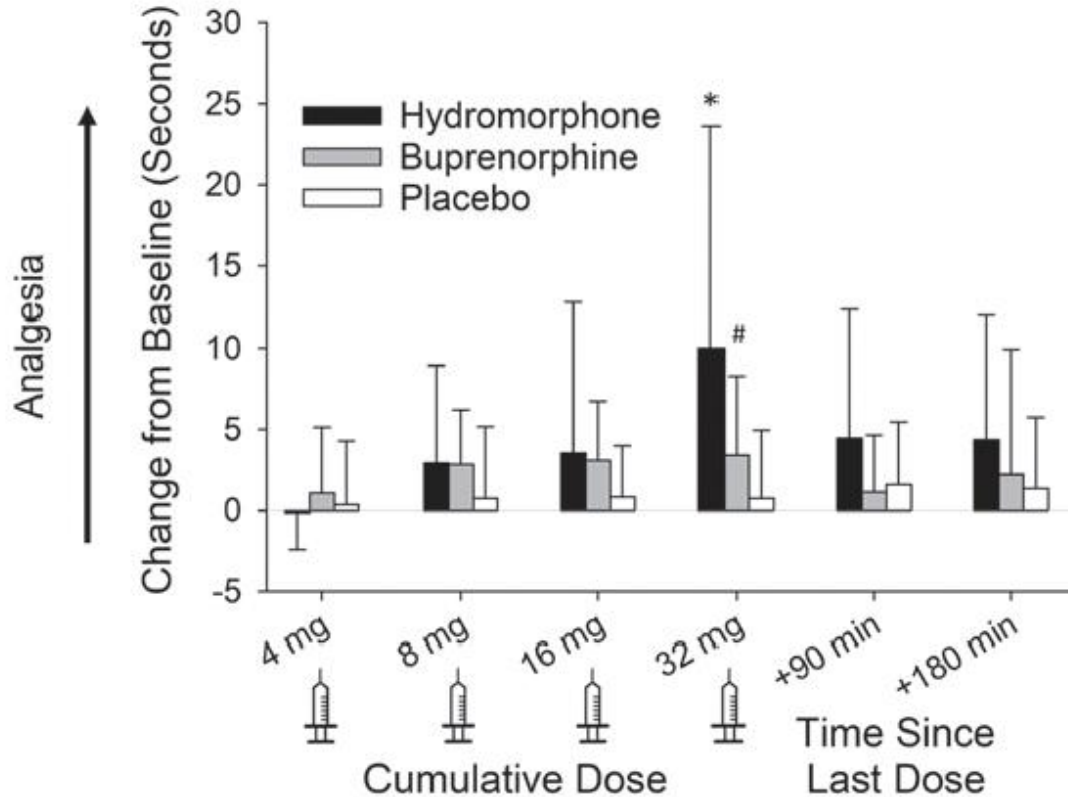
Accepted November 14, 2011

The Clinical Journal of Pain: October 2012 - Volume 28 - Issue 8 - p 705-711  
doi: 10.1097/AJP.0b013e318241d948





## Cold Pressor Threshold



## ANESTHESIOLOGY

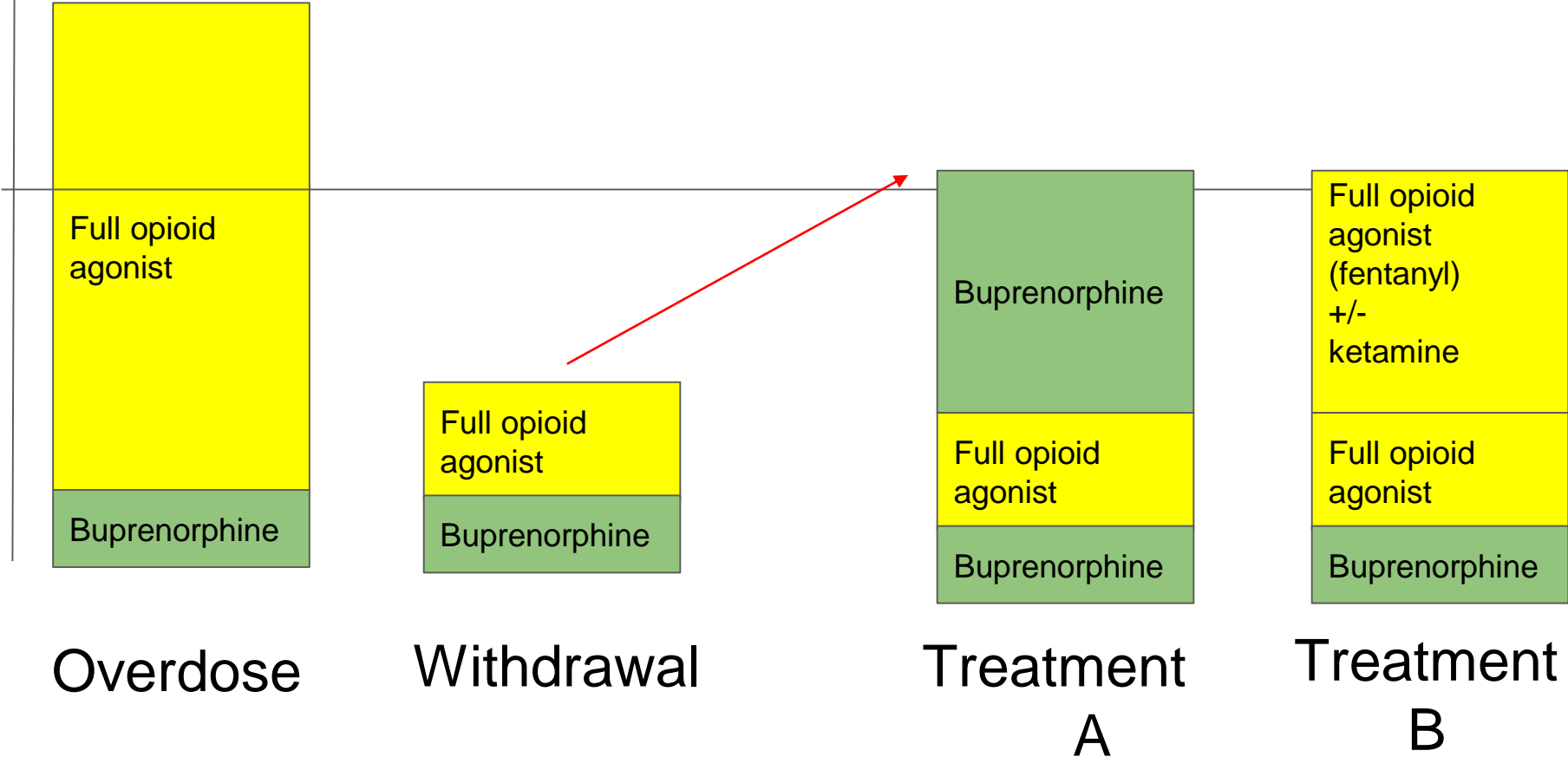
### Analgesic Effects of Hydromorphone *versus* Buprenorphine in Buprenorphine-maintained Individuals

Andrew S. Huhn, Ph.D., Eric C. Strain, M.D.,  
 George E. Bigelow, Ph.D., Michael T. Smith, Ph.D.,  
 Robert R. Edwards, Ph.D., D. Andrew Tompkins, M.D., M.H.S.  
*ANESTHESIOLOGY* 2019; 130:131–41

This study did not address the first issue but does provide controlled evidence that doses up to 32 mg of IV hydromorphone or IV buprenorphine may be given safely without respiratory depression in select buprenorphine-maintained individuals. This finding is specific to persons maintained on 12 to 16 mg sublingual buprenorphine/naloxone for opioid use disorder, who are approximately 17 h removed from their last dose and in the absence of concomitant medications that may cause further respiratory depression or other negative effect.



# Opioid balance



# Rapid high-dose induction in the Emergency Department and by Paramedics: initial observations and future directions

Andrew A Herring  
[aherring@alamedahealthsystem.org](mailto:aherring@alamedahealthsystem.org)

