



Patient Information - Naltrexone

Medication Name <i>(with Generic)</i>	
---	--

Expected Benefits	Treatment of alcohol dependence, blockade of the effects of exogenously administered opioids
--------------------------	--

Alternative Treatments	Individual and/or Group Therapy	Rehab treatment including OT, PT, RT	Behavior Intervention Techniques
-------------------------------	---------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------------------------

WARNING	Naltrexone may cause hepatic injury with excessive dosing.
----------------	--

Side Effects *	Any medication may produce unwanted side effects along with the desired results. Some side effects may appear even before the benefit from the medication is seen. If side effects do appear, they usually fade during continued treatment. Examples of side effects which may occur include:		
Frequently	Abdominal/stomach cramping Headache	Anxiety, Nervousness Unusual Tiredness	Trouble sleeping Joint or muscle pain
Occasionally	Chills Constipation Cough, Hoarseness, sinus problems	Diarrhea Dizziness Fast or pounding heart	Increased Thirst Irritability Loss of appetite Sexual problems in males
Rarely	Severe stomach pain Blurred vision Aching, burning or swollen eyes Depression or other mood changes Weight gain	Chest Pain Confusion Discomfort while urinating or frequent urination Shortness of breath	Fever Hallucinations Itching Ringing or buzzing in ear Swelling to the face, feet or lower legs

*** ANY SIDE EFFECTS SHOULD BE REPORTED AND DISCUSSED WITH THE DOCTOR, NURSE, AND / OR PHARMACIST.**

Interactions with other meds, natural products	<p>Naltrexone is contraindicated in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients receiving opioid analgesics. • Patients currently dependent on opioids, including those currently maintained on opiate agonists (e.g., methadone) or partial agonists (e.g., buprenorphine). • Patients in acute opioid withdrawal • Any individual who has failed the naloxone challenge test or who has a positive urine screen for opioids. • Any individual with a history of sensitivity to Naltrexone or any other components of this product. It is not known if there is any cross-sensitivity with naloxone or the phenanthrene containing opioids.
Cautions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naltrexone is excreted primarily in the urine, and caution is recommended in administering the drug to patients with renal impairment • Naltrexone may cause liver injury. Patients should immediately notify their physician if they develop symptoms and/or signs of liver disease. • Physical dependence can occur with long-term use • There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Naltrexone should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus • Whether or not Naltrexone is excreted in human milk is unknown. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, avoid taking Naltrexone while breastfeeding • The safe use of Naltrexone in pediatric patients younger than 18 years old has not been established
Food Interaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You should avoid or limit the use of alcohol while being treated with these medications. Call your doctor immediately if you have fever, chills, joint pain or swelling, unusual bleeding or bruising, skin rash, itching, loss of appetite, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, dark urine, pale stools, and/or yellowing of the skin or eyes, as these may be signs and symptoms of liver damage