Carencia

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Vivitrol Treatment Agreement

Addiction involving opioids, as is the case for addiction overall, is a chronic disease of brain reward, motivation, memory, and related circuitry. It can be complicated by comorbid physical and psychological conditions and influenced by genetic and environmental elements. While no two individuals suffer from addiction in exactly the same way, most patients require acute intervention followed by appropriate disease-specific treatment and then life-long continuing care to achieve and maintain remission of illness. In each case, therapy should be individually tailored to address the primary illness and all comorbidities. For most, opioid use disorder treatment requires chronic disease management that includes a combination of psychotherapeutic and, often, pharmacological interventions, administered in a variety of treatment settings and over a time frame sufficient to monitor relapse, stability and remission. – ASAM, 2013.

Vivitrol is indicated for the treatment of relapse prevention in patients struggling with opioid dependence. Along with opioid dependence, Vivitrol is also indicated for the treatment of alcohol dependence in patients that are able to maintain sobriety in an outpatient setting. To gain the most benefit from treatment with Vivitrol patients must engage in concurrent counseling and support services.

Educational Information

Naltrexone Extended Release Injectable Suspension (Vivitrol) is a prescription medicine used for treating alcohol use disorders and opioid use disorders. To have the most effect from Vivitrol treatment, you will want to add other services for substance use disorders such as recovery programs and counseling.

The most important information for you to know about Vivitrol:

1. Risk of Opioid Overdose. Since Vivitrol blocks the effects of opioids, overdose can occur when someone tries to overcome the blocking effects by taking large doses of opioids. Also, the risk overdose increases when it is close to the time that your next Vivitrol dose is due, if you miss a dose, and after you stop Vivitrol treatment if you attempt to use opioids in the same amounts that you have used in the past because you may now be more sensitive to the effects of opioids.

2. Sudden Opioid Withdrawal. To avoid this, you must not be currently taking any opioids (street drugs, prescription pain medicine, or any cough, cold, or diarrhea medications that contain opioids). You should avoid opioids for at least 7 – 14 days prior to starting Vivitrol treatment.

3. Severe Injection Site Reaction. There have been reports of severe injection site reactions that have required surgery. If you are concerned about a reaction at the injection site, if it gets worse over time, or if it doesn't improve in two weeks, you need to notify your healthcare provider. You also need to notify your healthcare provider if you notice any of the following at the injection site: intense pain, the area feels hard, large area of swelling, lumps, blisters, an open wound, or a dark scab.

4. Liver Damage or Hepatitis. Vivitrol can cause liver damage or hepatitis. You need to report any of the following symptoms to your healthcare provider: stomach pain lasting for longer than a couple of days, dark urine, yellowing of the whites of your eyes, or increased tiredness.

The most common side effects of Vivitrol may include:

Nausea (experienced by 33% of patients) which usually resolves within a few days of the injections and is less likely to happen with future injections, sleepiness (4%), headaches (25%), dizziness (13%), vomiting (14%), decreased appetite (14%), painful joints (12%), muscle cramps (8%), cold symptoms (11%), trouble sleeping (14%), and toothache.

The more serious side effects:

1. Depressed Mood. Notify your healthcare provider immediately or go to the nearest emergency room if you start to have suicidal thoughts. Notify your healthcare provider if you begin to experience any of the following symptoms of depression: feeling sad, crying frequently, feeling helpless/hopeless, feeling tired all the time, increased irritability or aggression, sleeping a lot more or a lot less than normal, change in body weight, eating a lot more or eating a lot less than normal, or difficulty paying attention.

2. Pneumonia. Vivitrol injections can cause pneumonia due to an allergic reaction that may require hospitalization. Notify your healthcare provider if you experience the following symptoms: wheezing, shortness of breath, and coughing.

3. Serious Allergic Reaction. Patients can experience a severe allergic reaction after receiving Vivitrol. Notify your healthcare provider immediately if you have any of the following symptoms: a skin rash, dizziness, chest pain, trouble breathing or wheezing, or swelling of your face, eyes, mouth, or tongue.

Links:

Patient information on Vivitrol

Vivitrol Brochure

Vivitrol Support Services

Contact Vivitrol

Vivitrol Package Insert

Practice Policies

- We have a coordination of care fee of $15 per month that assists us in the time spent processing enrollment, patient assistance, monthly communication with pharmacy for shipment, and other needed services.
- Due to our inability to return the injections once they have shipped, if for any reason you stop taking Vivitrol either by notification of desire to discontinue or not attending visits as examples, we will use the injections as samples for other patients.
- All patients that take Vivitrol will need a trial of oral naltrexone to confirm tolerability unless a previous treatment has already confirmed this and a lack of adverse reaction or allergy.
- When indicated, patients will need labs before starting vivitrol/naltrexone to evaluate and have a record of baseline results to compare against future labs. Costs associated with labs are the patient's responsibility and not associated with Carencia financial policies or payor contracts.

Patient Responsibilities

_____ Before you receive each injection of Vivitrol, tell your healthcare provider if you have any of the following: liver problems, use of opioids in the last 14 days, have hemophilia or other bleeding disorders, have any medical problems, have kidney problems, are pregnant or becoming pregnant, or are breastfeeding.

_____ Whenever you need medical treatment, tell the treating healthcare provider that you are receiving Vivitrol injections and when you got your last dose.

_____ I will call my healthcare provider if I notice any of the following at the injection site: Intense pain, large area or swelling, lumps, blisters, hardening of the area, open wound, or a dark scab.

_____ I will keep the Vivitrol identification and notification card on myself in case of emergency.

_____ I will tell my other healthcare providers of my use of Vivitrol.

_____ I will abstain from using opioid medications unless under the guidance or supervision of a medical provider that is aware of my use of naltrexone.

_____ I will keep the specialty pharmacy information available to me and understand it is my responsibility to contact them if they do not contact me in order to authorize my shipment of Vivitrol to providers office at least 1 week prior to appointment.

_____ I understand that if I decline the injection, or am no longer taking Vivitrol from this office which includes not making appointments, any shipments to the providers office of Vivitrol or remaining doses on hand, will be deemed as samples for other potential patients 1 month after the injection was received by the office.

By signing below,

- I certify that I have read all of the information indicated above, and that I understand the side effects, as well as my obligations regarding taking Vivitrol.
- I voluntarily consent to take Vivitrol as part of treatment plan.
- I voluntarily agree to ongoing counseling and treatment as part of the Vivitrol treatment program.

Patient Name (Printed): _____

Patient Signature: _____ Date: _____