

Buprenorphine Treatment

Physician Locator

It is important to realize that while Buprenorphine is an effective method for treating withdrawal symptoms in heroin addicts, it cannot be used in isolation. Buprenorphine only treats the physical symptoms associated with withdrawal; it does not address the psychological and environmental aspects of addiction.

Anyone who is seeking treatment for drug addiction has a long road ahead of them. They must understand that psychological support, in the form of counseling, is often one very important component in breaking the addiction cycle. Such support is often provided as part of a comprehensive treatment approach offered by many in-patient addiction treatment centers.

Removing oneself from the environment in which the drug abuse was taking place is also an important aspect of treatment. It is very difficult to wake up in the same bed and be around all of the same people who were abusing drugs with you once you decide to stop using drugs. People who have substance abuse addictions build their entire lives around their addiction; much needs to change in a person's life before they can re-gain control over something as powerful as an addiction.

Buprenorphine treatment is often considered a first step in treating opiate addiction. It works to block the receptors in the brain that are causing the craving for more drugs and the pain and discomfort when those drugs are not taken. Buprenorphine works by filling in the receptor sites in the brain that are open and waiting for the drug; it satisfies those receptors enough to eliminate the pain of withdrawal, but not enough to cause the euphoria or "high" associated with drug use.

Buprenorphine is marketed under the brand names Suboxone and Subutex. Physicians must be certified in order to be able to prescribe Buprenorphine, and they are limited in the amount of patients they can treat each year. The following list is NOT a complete list of doctors who are Buprenorphine certified. This is only a sampling of doctors in our area. The list changes often, as new doctors are added and others are taken off the list. More names are available from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) website. Please visit www.samhsa.gov for more information and for more resources in locating a certified physician.

Buprenorphine Certified Physicians In Our Area

Wahba, Sameh MD
60 North Country Rd., Port Jefferson
476-0776

Geraci, Vincent MD
100 Center Dr., Riverhead
852-1665

Ahmed, Bashir MD

1035 Middle Country Rd., Suite 2, Selden
320-3053

Safina, Francis MD
6 Musket Pl., Setauket
751-8037

Konczynin, William MD
Three Village Family Medical
750 Jersey Ave., Setauket
689-2700

Greenwood, Catherine MD
9 Brookside Dr., Smithtown
265-0909

Salzberg, Mark MD
519 W. Jericho Tpke., Smithtown
360-5900

Castroll, Robert MD
222 Middle Country Rd., Suite 210, Smithtown
265-6868

Doshi, Ashvin MD
Pederson-Krag Center North
11 Rte. 111, Smithtown
920-8300

Burkhard, Karin MD
994 Jericho Tpke., Smithtown
864-9200

Passidomo, Christopher DO
213 Hallock Rd., Suite 3A, Stony Brook
698-3771

Berdia, Sashi MD
1239 Rte. 25A, Suite 2B
Stony Brook Medical Center
751-2007