

Initiation of buprenorphine in the emergency department or emergency out-of-hospital setting: a mixed-methods systematic review

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Conflicts of Interest

None to declare





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Finally, I would like to pay tribute to the thousands of lives lost in the failed "War on Drugs". May their memory motivate us towards a more just society.



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NDC 12496-1208-3 30 pouches each containing 1 sublingual film

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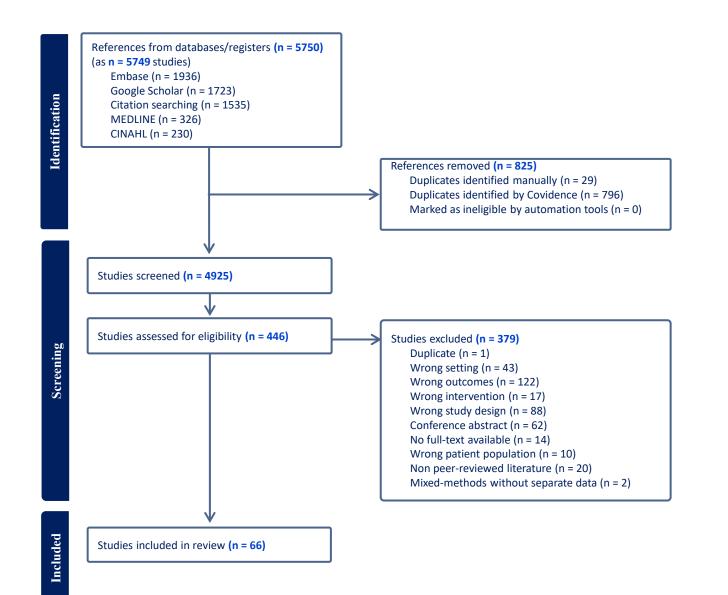
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Quantitative Results

- Emergency buprenorphine increases retention in treatment at 30 and 60 days in both randomised and observational research
- Longer term retention was variable
- 60% reduction in odds of subsequent drug poisoning emergency at 30 days, but not at 90 days or 12 months
- Rate of precipitated withdrawal was very poorly reported



Clinician Themes

- Management of Chronic Conditions in the ED
 - "By getting them on Suboxone [®] and bridging them to that next appointment, you can save their life. It's the job of the ER, like connecting them to the cath lab"
- Simplifying the Process of Prescribing and Referral
 - "People go to the ER between mostly 3pm and 11pm...then we're trying to make phone calls before offices close and we usually can't do anything...options are limited to trying same-day, warm handoff follow-ups"
- Training and Improving Uptake
 - "I don't know what you want to call it, but the leader or the champion of whatever new process you're trying to put in place"
- Provider Stigma and Peer Support Workers
 - "We have to interrupt the prejudice and recognise this is a chronic disease"



Patient Themes

- Benefits Beyond Buprenorphine
 - "You just got to remember that this medication could be life-saving to that person and get their life back on track"
 - *"Educate people, so they know besides, like, just ending up at emergency and finding out. I think it should be advertised more"*
- Shared Decision-Making
 - "All you can do is really leave the door open. You can't force anybody to do anything. All you can really do is just let them know that the help is there and hope they reach out"



So, what's next?

