

***Buprenorphine Treatment:
A Training for Multidisciplinary
Addiction Professionals***



Table of Contents

Introduction to the Training.....	5
Background Information: NIDA-SAMHSA Blending Initiative	5
Focus on Buprenorphine.....	5
Blending Team Members.....	5
Additional Contributors.....	6
What Does the Training Package Contain?	6
What Does This Trainer’s Manual Contain?	6
How Are the PowerPoint Training Slides Organized?.....	6
General Information About Conducting the Training.....	7
Materials Needed to Conduct the Training.....	7
Overall Training Notes	7
Module I: Introduction	9
Module II: Opioids 101.....	31
Module III: Buprenorphine 101	53
Module IV: Identification of Patients for Buprenorphine Treatment.....	65
Module V: Coordinated Care	75
Module VI: Counseling Buprenorphine Patients	83
Possible Problem Situations and Solutions	103



Buprenorphine Treatment: A Training for Multidisciplinary Addiction Professionals

Introduction to the Training

Background Information: NIDA-SAMHSA Blending Initiative

In order to disseminate information to the addiction treatment field, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) has created a partnership with the Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) Network funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The fourteen regional ATTCs throughout the country and the ATTC National Office provide specialized training and technical assistance to substance abuse treatment professionals in order to create a more effective treatment workforce. Through the NIDA-SAMHSA Blending Initiative, special groups called Blending Teams composed of NIDA researchers and ATTC representatives meet to design dissemination strategies.

Focus on Buprenorphine

In the year 2000, NIDA created the Clinical Trials Network (CTN). The CTN conducts studies of behavioral, pharmacological, and integrated behavioral and pharmacological treatment interventions in rigorous, multi-site clinical trials to determine effectiveness across a broad range of community-based treatment settings and diverse patient populations. Once research is completed, the CTN will work to transfer the research results to physicians, providers, and their patients to improve the quality of drug abuse treatment throughout the country.

In 2002 tablet formulations of buprenorphine were approved by the FDA for the treatment of opiate addiction. Additionally, the CTN has implemented several clinical trials related to specific uses of this medication. The CTN clinical trials for buprenorphine are now underway or completed. Information is being analyzed and prepared for dissemination to the field in the form of specific treatment information.

In order to prepare the field to effectively integrate this new treatment, NIDA formed a Blending Team to develop an awareness training for multidisciplinary (non-physician) addiction professionals to educate them about buprenorphine and its use in the treatment of opioid addiction. This training was designed to provide a broad overview of the medication, its effects, and the role of non-physician practitioners in providing and supporting the treatment of individuals receiving this medication.

Blending Team Members

Leslie Amass, Ph.D. – Friends Research Institute, Inc.

Greg Brigham, Ph.D. – CTN Ohio Valley Node

Glenda Clare, M.A. – Central East ATTC

Gail Dixon, M.A. – Southern Coast ATTC

Beth Finnerty, M.P.H. – Pacific Southwest ATTC

Thomas Freese, Ph.D. – Pacific Southwest ATTC

Eric Strain, M.D. – Johns Hopkins University

Additional Contributors

Judith Martin, M.D. – 14th Street Clinic, Oakland, CA
Michael McCann, M.A. – Matrix Institute on Addictions
Jeanne Obert, MFT, MSM – Matrix Institute on Addictions
Donald Wesson, M.D. – Independent Consultant

The ATTC National Office
The O.A.S.I.S. Clinic

What Does the Training Package Contain?

- PowerPoint Training Slides
- CD-ROM – “Put Your Smack Down! A Video About Buprenorphine”
- Trainer’s Manual
- Central East ATTC’s Online Course
- Annotated Bibliography
- Marketing Brochure

What Does This Trainer’s Manual Contain?

This training manual, *Buprenorphine Treatment: A Training for Multidisciplinary Addiction Professionals*, is the product of the first Blending Team. The manual is designed to support a one-day face-to-face training to introduce addiction treatment providers and other non-physician personnel to the basics of buprenorphine treatment. The entire training is designed as a guide that will be customized by ATTC and CTN trainers across the country to meet the needs of their local region. Therefore, detailed speaker notes, and not a word-for-word script, are provided to allow for maximum flexibility. Comments in italics are for the trainer only, and are not meant to be read aloud.

How Are the PowerPoint Training Slides Organized?

The primary goal of this Blending Team product is to create a package of training materials that can be used to create awareness about buprenorphine among multidisciplinary addiction professionals. The materials include information designed to increase motivation for bringing buprenorphine to local communities, as well as information about what to expect when someone is treated with this medication.

It is important to note that this training is introductory and is focused on building awareness and encouraging multidisciplinary addiction professionals to learn more about buprenorphine treatment. It is not designed to provide an expert level of competency in utilizing buprenorphine for opioid addiction. This course provides valuable information about legislation that permits office-based buprenorphine treatment, the science of addiction, the mechanism of buprenorphine, patient selection issues, and various patient, counseling, and therapeutic issues.

The training package is designed to provide information and content for a six-hour training to cover the six modules described below. Additionally, the introductory module (Module I) is designed so that it can be presented as a stand-alone introduction to buprenorphine. This shorter presentation could be used as a keynote address at conferences or as a marketing tool to expose people to the benefits of buprenorphine and the advantages of including it as a treatment within local communities. It is integral to the success of the training to be cognizant of the audience's needs and past experience. The training should be adapted to meet the needs of the audience.

This course, *Buprenorphine Treatment: A Training for Multidisciplinary Addiction Professionals*, is divided into six modules. We recommend that you begin with Module I and work your way through each module, since each module builds on the previous one. However, it is important to identify the extent of the attendees' background and experience with opioid treatment. If it turns out that the training audience has extensive experience with opioid treatment, Modules I and II can be abbreviated or omitted. In this case, the trainer(s) would begin with Module III and proceed through the remaining modules. Module VI (Buprenorphine Treatment) is the largest module, and contains a lot of important information. It is critical that the trainer allow enough time to adequately cover the information contained within Module VI, without having to rush through early content. The training is about 5-1/2 to 6 hours in length. As a rule of thumb, the training should be paced to allow approximately two minutes for each slide.

Throughout the training, the term "patient" is used to refer to the individual seeking treatment. This terminology reflects the medicalized nature of buprenorphine treatment and underscores the fact that the treatment is largely physician-driven. The use of this term may be inconsistent with the vocabulary in common usage in addiction treatment settings. Trainers are encouraged to address this issue with participants and make adaptations to the materials as needed.

General Information About Conducting the Training

The training is designed to be conducted in small- to medium-sized groups (10-25 people). It is possible to use these materials with larger groups, but the trainer will have to adapt the small group exercises to ensure that there is adequate time to cover all of the material.

Materials Needed to Conduct the Training

- Computer and LCD projector to project the PowerPoint training slides OR printed overheads and overhead projector
- Computer (with speakers) to play the CD-ROM of "Put Your Smack Down! A Video About Buprenorphine" that appears in Module IV
- Flip chart paper and easel/white board, and pens to write down relevant information.

Overall Training Notes

Attempt to find as much out about the trainees as possible prior to the training. This will help the trainer(s) to customize the six-module presentation and avoid reviewing information that will seem elementary or redundant to the participants.

