

NALTREXONE

nal-trex-own

What does it do?

Naltrexone helps you abstain from alcohol or opioid drugs (e.g. morphine, oxycodone, heroin). It reduces alcohol cravings and the high you get when using opioids.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have used opioids in the last 10 days because this will cause severe withdrawal symptoms.
- Tell your doctor if you have kidney problems.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

How should you take it?

Take *naltrexone* regularly as directed with a glass of water.

What if you forget a dose?

If it is nearly time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and take your next dose at the usual time. Otherwise, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Do not take two doses at the same time.

Can you take other medicines?

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

What side effects might you notice?

These side effects are similar to withdrawal symptoms that you might get when coming off alcohol or opioids.

| Side Effects | Recommended action |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Anxiety | Tell your doctor |
| Nausea, vomiting Headache, dizziness, trouble sleeping Joint or muscle aches or pains | Tell your doctor if troublesome |

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

Other information:

- Do not use opioids while you are taking *naltrexone*. This can be life-threatening.
- Do not stop taking *naltrexone* without talking to your doctor first.
- After you have stopped taking *naltrexone*, you may be more sensitive to opioids and have a higher risk of overdose if you start using them again.