

# A Tool for Buprenorphine Care

(A series of monthly newsletters about buprenorphine treatment)

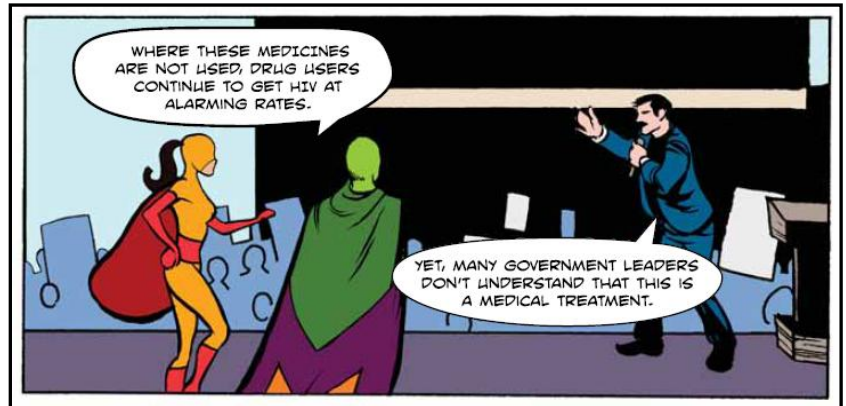
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## Have you seen this?



[The Adventures of Methadone Man and Buprenorphine Babe](#) is a project of the [Open Society Foundations'](#) International Harm-Reduction Development Program. The Open Society Foundation is an organization that works "to build vibrant and tolerant democracies whose governments are accountable to their citizens." In order raise awareness of and build knowledge about harm reduction-based treatments for opioid dependence in places where access is limited or buprenorphine and methadone are banned, they created these superheros. The project also aims to reduce the spread of HIV.



There are 3 videos (streamed from YouTube) and a graphic novel. The materials are under a creative commons license, meaning that anyone is free to distribute them as long as attribution is given. (More details about that are [here](#).)

## Spanish Language Patient Education Resources Available

BupPractice.com (funded by the National Institute of Drug Abuse) has 20 Spanish-language patient handouts on various buprenorphine-related topics available. Topics include pregnancy, honesty in the provider-patient relationship, side effects, and understanding opioid dependence. Check them out [here](#).

## Research Update

### Mouse-over for abstract

Antidepressant treatment does not improve buprenorphine retention among opioid-dependent persons. Stein MD, Herman DS, Kettavong M, Cioe PA, Friedmann PD, Tellioglu T, Anderson BJ. *J Subst Abuse Treat.* 2010 Jul 2. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 20598836

Expanding treatment capacity for opioid dependence with office-based treatment with buprenorphine: National surveys of physicians. Arken CL, Johanson CE, di Menza S, Schuster CR. *J Subst Abuse Treat.* 2010 Jul 2. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 20598829

A national study of a telephone support service for patients receiving office-based buprenorphine medication-assisted treatment: Study feasibility and sample description. Ruetsch C, Cacciola J, Tkacz J. *J Subst Abuse Treat.* 2010 Aug 20. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 20728299

Factors associated with complicated buprenorphine inductions. Whitley SD, Sohler NL, Kunins HV, Giovanniello A, Li X, Sacajiu G, Cunningham CO. *J Subst Abuse Treat.* 2010 Jul;39(1):51-7. PMID: 20682186

## Frequently Asked Question:

### What type of clinical work-up do you do prior to induction?

A complete history should be taken, patient should be given a physical exam, lab testing should be completed, mental status exam given, and a psychiatric evaluation completed if indicated. The eight-hour training program provides a good synopsis of what medical and psychiatric evaluation should occur.

Source: Buprenorphine Initiative in the VA Resource Guide

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