

## **VIVITROL (naltrexene extended release)**

Effective Date: 1/28/14

Date Developed: 1/28/14 by Robert Sterling, MD

Last Approval Date: 1/26/16, 1/24/17, 1/23/18, 1/22/19,  
2/18/20, 2/2/21, 8/3/21, 2/1/22, 1/31/23

Naltrexone (a pure opioid antagonist) is a derivative of oxymorphone similar in structure to naloxone and nalorphine (a morphine derivative); it acts as a competitive antagonist at opioid receptor sites, showing the highest affinity for mu receptors. Endogenous opioids are involved in modulating the expression of alcohol's reinforcing effects. Naltrexone also modifies the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis to suppress alcohol consumption.

### **Authorization:**

**Alcohol use disorder:** Treatment of alcohol use disorder.

**Opioid use disorder, mild to severe:** For the blockade of the effects of exogenously administered opioids.

**Dosing:** 380 mg intramuscularly every four weeks

**PRECAUTIONS:** injection site reactions; worsening depression; hypersensitivity reactions; unintended withdrawal symptoms if given prior to several days of abstinence; hepatic impairment

## **REFERENCES**

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**Revision History:**

Date Reviewed/No Updates: 1/13/15 by C. Sanders, MD  
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 1/27/15  
Date Reviewed/No Updates: 1/26/16 by C. Sanders, MD; R. Sterling, MD  
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 1/26/16  
Date Reviewed/No Updates: 1/24/17 by C. Sanders, MD; R. Sterling, MD  
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 1/24/17  
Date Reviewed/No Updates: 1/23/18 by C. Sanders, MD; R. Sterling, MD  
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 1/23/18  
Date Reviewed/No Updates: 1/22/19 by C. Sanders, MD; R. Sterling, MD  
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 1/22/19  
Date Reviewed/No Updates: 2/18/20 by H. Taekman, MD; R. Sterling, MD  
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 2/18/20  
Date Reviewed/No Updates: 2/2/21 by H. Taekman, MD; R. Sterling, MD  
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 2/2/21  
Date Reviewed/Updated: 8/3/21 by H. Taekman, MD; R. Sterling, MD  
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 8/3/21  
Date Reviewed/No Updates: 2/1/22 by H. Taekman, MD; R. Sterling, MD  
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 2/1/22  
Date Reviewed/No Updates: 1/31/23 by H. Taekman, MD; R. Sterling, MD  
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 1/31/23

Revision Date	Content Revised (Yes/No)	Contributors	Review/Revision Notes
1/24/17	No	Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual review
1/23/18	No	Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual review
1/22/19	No	Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual review
2/18/20	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual review
2/2/21	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual review
8/3/21	Yes	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Minor changes;

			References added
2/1/22	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual review
1/31/23	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual review