



ASAM The Voice of Addiction Medicine
American Society of Addiction Medicine

Medicaid Coverage of Medications for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder

In Kentucky between 2008-2012, persons enrolled in substance use treatment programs that prescribed methadone **increased 0.3%**. In 2012 in Kentucky, **17.2%** of persons aged 12 and older who met criteria for having a drug use disorder received treatment^α.

KENTUCKY

State Benefits at a Glance^β...

Methadone

Kentucky Medicaid does not cover methadone under Fee-For-Service (FFS) plans.

Buprenorphine/Naloxone film (Suboxone[®]), Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets (generic), Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets (Zubsolv^{®c}) and Buprenorphine tablets (generic).

Medication Limitations

Kentucky Medicaid covers Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets under FFS plans with the following limitations:

- In order to approve these medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder, patients must be enrolled in, or have documented proof, of SUD* counseling.
- Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets must tapered to the minimum dose after 8 months of initial treatment.
- The maximum daily dose of Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets after 6 months treatment is 24mg/day.
- Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets require prior authorization for use.
- No information was provided for Zubsolv.

Kentucky covers Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and Buprenorphine tablets as a pharmacy benefit under FFS plans.

These medications are not listed on Kentucky's preferred drug list for FFS plans, but they are on the preferred list for Managed Care plans (MC). Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets are covered for use in a physician's office under FFS plans.



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State Benefits at a Glance (continued)...

Injectable Naltrexone (VIVITROL[®])

Kentucky Medicaid covers injectable naltrexone (Vivitrol[®]) under both FFS and MC plans. Patients **do not** need to be enrolled in, or have documented proof of, SUD* counseling for Vivitrol coverage.

- Vivitrol is covered as a pharmacy benefit under FFS plans.
- Vivitrol also appears on Kentucky's preferred drug list under FFS plans.
- Vivitrol is covered for use in a physician's office-based setting under FFS plans.

^a Data from SAMHSA's State and Metro Reports accessed http://www.samhsa.gov/data/States_In_Brief_Reports.aspx

^b Data as of spring 2014.

^c Zubsolv was not included in the original survey, as the medication was not FDA approved until fall of 2013. This summary reflects only information related to Preferred Drug List (PDL) and formulary inclusion obtained from pharmacy and State websites.

*In Kentucky, substance Use Disorder (SUD) counseling is a covered Medicaid benefit under FFS plans.

Medicaid Benefits for Treatment of Opioid Dependence Nationwide

Number of Medications Covered under Fee-For-Service Medicaid Plans By State