

# Buprenorphine

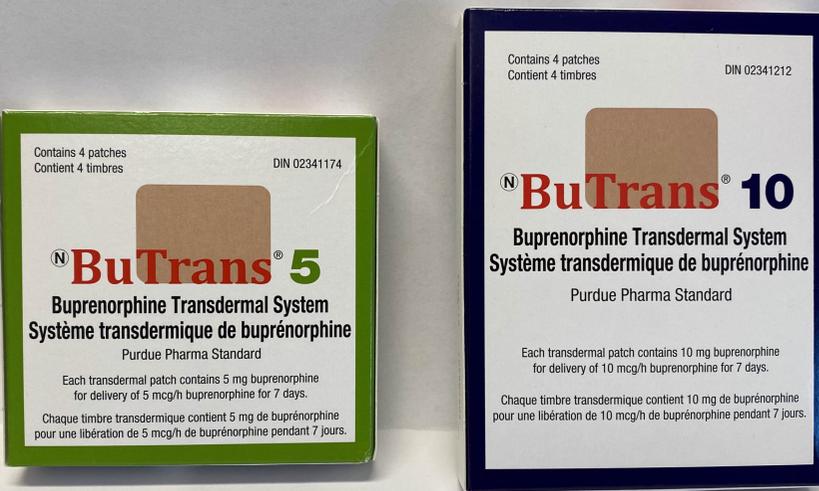
*Butrans*

## What is this drug used for?



**To relieve your pain**

It may be prescribed to you for other reasons. Talk with your doctor.



## Warning!

- This drug has an opioid drug in it. The use of opioid drugs along with a benzodiazepine drug or other drugs that may make you drowsy or slow your actions has led to very bad side effects. Side effects that have happened include slowed or trouble breathing and deaths. Benzodiazepine drugs include drugs like alprazolam, diazepam, and lorazepam.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place and out of the reach of children and pets.

## What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take this drug?



If you have an allergy to buprenorphine or any other part of this drug, or if you have any allergies in general.



If you have lung or breathing problems, stomach or bowel block or narrowing, liver disease, or if you or a family member have a long QT on ECG.



If you are taking any of these drugs: Linezolid, methylene blue, butorphanol, nalbuphine, pentazocine, amiodarone, disopyramide, dofetilide, procainamide, quinidine, or sotalol



If you have taken certain drugs for depression or Parkinson's disease in the last 14 days.

**This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with this drug.**

## What are some things I need to know or do while I take this drug?

- ✔ Tell all of your health care providers that you take this drug. This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- ✔ Avoid driving and doing other tasks or actions that call for you to be alert until you see how this drug affects you.
- ✔ This drug may raise the chance of seizures in some people, including people who have had seizures in the past.
- ✔ Do not take this drug with other strong pain drugs or if you are using a pain patch without talking to your doctor first.
- ✔ To lower the chance of feeling dizzy or passing out, rise slowly if you have been sitting or lying down. Be careful going up and down stairs.
- ✔ Long-term use of an opioid drug may lead to lower sex hormone levels, less interest in sex, fertility problems, no menstrual period (women), or change in sex ability (men).
- ✔ This drug may cause harm to the unborn baby if you take it while you are pregnant. Do not breast-feed while on this drug.
- ✔ If you drink grapefruit juice or eat grapefruit often, talk with your doctor.
- ✔ Have blood work checked as you have been told by the doctor.
- ✔ This drug may cause withdrawal symptoms if you are dependent or addicted to narcotics.
- ✔ If you are 65 or older, use this drug with care.

# What are some side effects that I need to call my doctor about right away?

## Signs of an allergic reaction

Rash; hives: itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.

## Signs of liver problems.

Like dark urine, feeling tired, not hungry, upset stomach or stomach pain, light-colored stools, throwing up, or yellow skin or eyes.

## Abnormal heartbeat or chest pain.

## Any of the following:

Feeling very confused, nervous and excitable, fever, too much sweat, sore throat, shakiness, memory problems or loss, very bad headache, hallucinations, or trouble passing urine.

## Adrenal gland problems.

Taking an opioid drug like this drug may lead to a rare but very bad adrenal gland problem. Call your doctor right away if you have very bad dizziness or passing out, very bad upset stomach or throwing up, or if you feel less hungry, very tired, or very weak.

## Change in balance.

Extra muscle action or slow movement, muscle or joint pain, swelling in the arms or legs, or seizures.

## Burning, numbness, or tingling feeling.

## Very hard stools (constipation).

## Change in eyesight.

# What are some common side effects?

## Feeling sleepy, tired, or weak.

## Upset stomach or throwing up.

## Hard stools (constipation).

## Headaches.

## Belly pain.

## Feeling dizzy.

**Call your doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother you or do not go away**

# How is this drug best taken?

## Use this drug as ordered by your doctor. Follow all instructions closely.

- To gain the most benefit, do not miss doses.
- Take this drug at the same time of day.

# General drug facts

- If your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor.
- Talk with your doctor before starting any new drug, including prescription or OTC, natural products, or vitamins.
- Ask your doctor or talk with a pharmacist for information on what to do if you miss a dose or how to store your drugs.

**If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away.**  
**Ontario Poison Control Centre : (416)-813-5900**

# Serotonin syndrome

A very bad and sometimes deadly syndrome. Call your doctor right away if you have agitation; change in balance; confusion; hallucinations; fever; fast or abnormal heartbeat; flushing; muscle twitching or stiffness; seizures, shivering or shaking; sweating a lot; very bad diarrhea, upset stomach, throwing up; or very bad headache.

