

Buprenorphine extended-release injection  
(Sublocade®)

Place of Service  
Office Administration

HCPCS

Q9991: 100 mg syringe (1 syringe = 1 unit)

Q9992: 300 mg syringe (1 syringe = 1 unit)

Condition(s) listed in policy (see criteria for details)

- [Maintenance treatment of opioid dependence](#)

**AHFS therapeutic class:** Opiate partial agonist

**Mechanism of action:** Buprenorphine is a partial agonist at the mu-opioid receptor and an antagonist at the kappa-opioid receptor.

**(1) Special Instructions and Pertinent Information**

**Covered under the Medical Benefit,** please submit clinical information for prior authorization review via fax.

**(2) Prior Authorization/Medical Review is required for the following condition(s)**

**All requests for buprenorphine extended-release injection (Sublocade™) must be sent for clinical review and receive authorization prior to drug administration or claim payment.**

Maintenance treatment of opioid dependence

1. Patient has been initiated on 8 to 24 mg of a transmucosal buprenorphine-containing product for at least 7 days, **AND**
2. Not being used concurrently with an opiate

**Covered Doses**

Up to 300 mg SC monthly

**Coverage Period**

Indefinite

**ICD-10:**

F11.20, F11.21

**(3) The following condition(s) DO NOT require Prior Authorization/Preservice**

**All requests for buprenorphine extended-release injection (Sublocade™) must be sent for clinical review and receive authorization prior to drug administration or claim payment.**

**(4) This Medication is NOT medically necessary for the following condition(s)**

Coverage for a Non-FDA approved indication, requires that criteria outlined in Health and Safety Code § 1367.21, including objective evidence of efficacy and safety are met for the proposed indication.

Please refer to the Provider Manual and User Guide for more information.

#### **(5) Additional Information**

How supplied:

- 100 mg/0.5 mL prefilled syringe
- 300 mg/1.5 mL prefilled syringe

Pursuant to the Sublocade Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) Program, all healthcare settings and pharmacies that order and dispense Sublocade must be certified and establish processes and procedures to verify the medication is dispensed directly to a healthcare provider for administration by a healthcare provider.

#### **(6) References**

- AHFS®. Available by subscription at <http://www.lexi.com>
- Buprenorphine. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Updated March 4, 2022. Available at: <https://www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-treatment/treatment/buprenorphine>. Accessed April 1, 2022.
- DrugDex®. Available by subscription at <http://www.micromedexsolutions.com/home/dispatch>
- National Practice Guideline for the use of medications in the treatment of addiction involving opioid use. Available at: <https://www.asam.org/docs/default-source/practice-support/guidelines-and-consensus-docs/asam-national-practice-guideline-supplement.pdf>. Accessed December 20, 2019.
- Sublocade® (buprenorphine) [Prescribing information]. North Chesterfield, VA: Indivior Inc.; 6/2021.

#### **(7) Policy Update**

Date of last review: 2Q2022

Date of next review: 2Q2023

Changes from previous policy version:

- No clinical change to policy following routine annual review.

*BSC Drug Coverage Criteria to Determine Medical Necessity  
Reviewed by P&T Committee*