

Prescribed Medication to Manage addiction: Reducing Withdrawal from OxyContin

When it comes to most drug addictions, withdrawal and the symptoms associated with it can become severe and disruptive to the treatment process. For this reason, many detox centers choose to use a combination of traditional purging treatments and prescribed medications. However, these medications can pose an issue, as they can be highly addictive themselves. One such medication is OxyContin, which is normally used to treat chronic pain and other ailments sometimes associated with withdrawal.

OxyContin (or oxycodone) is an agonist opioid, one of the most effective pain relievers available. Unlike other analgesics such as aspirin, the more a person takes the better they feel. While this medication has a controlled-release mechanism when taken in pill form, other methods of ingestion such as chewing, snorting or injecting can provide more instant and intense gratification. When taken too frequently in this way, larger and larger doses are needed to produce the desired effect, causing a deep tolerance and later addiction to this opiate.

While OxyContin has been used to relieve symptoms of withdrawal from other drugs, it can itself become a lethal barrier in the detoxification process. It essentially replaces one addiction with its own, and without it patients can experience bone and muscle pain, insomnia and restlessness, nausea and vomiting and in worse cases coma or death. Because of the high risk involved with the use of OxyContin, many treatment clinics have opted to use a counteractive drug known as Suboxone. Suboxone is an opiate receptor blocker in that it reduces cravings for opiates like OxyContin as well as their withdrawal symptoms. When used, Suboxone helps patients to gradually break from a physical addiction – a much-needed assistant in the detoxification process which allows both patient and doctor to move forward with a plan for treatment.

Suboxone is a very necessary part of detoxification. However, if the ultimate goal is to separate patients from any medication, then Suboxone should be used for short-term maintenance. Getting to the root of a patient's dependence and addiction problems through such methods as psychiatric help and therapy will help to ensure full recovery with or without medications. While Suboxone works well as a short-term solution, there is a risk that the recovery process will be interrupted if a patient cannot continue to afford it in the future. On its own, Suboxone is only a temporary solution which masks the symptoms of opiate withdrawal. It does not, however, fully remove the addiction. Treatment which solely depends on Suboxone leaves a patient vulnerable to a relapse should the medication ever be removed from or reduced in the treatment process. However, combining Suboxone for a short period of time with treatment which focuses on the root issue through psychiatric evaluation and help will ensure greater success without the risk of relapse or withdrawal symptoms. For more information or to create a personalized detoxification plan, visit www.anewdayrehab.com

Source Box:

A New Day Rehab offers a high-quality, comprehensive treatment for drug and alcohol abuse that centers on the individual needs of each client. Based in southern Florida, A New Day Rehab provides a serene and safe environment that promotes healing on all levels – physically, mentally and spiritually. Admissions accepted 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Visit www.anewdayrehab.com or contact via email at info@anewdayrehab.com for more information.

Keywords:

detoxification
OxyContin
Suboxone
Opiate addiction
Drug addiction
Drug addiction treatment
Opiate withdrawal
OxyContin withdrawal