What You Need to Know About Probuphine: A Patient's Guide

What is Probuphine?

- PROBUPHINE is an implant that contains the medicine buprenorphine. PROBUPHINE is used to treat certain adults who are addicted to (dependent on) opioid drugs (either prescription or illegal). PROBUPHINE is part of a complete treatment program that also includes counseling and behavioral therapy.
- Probuphine implants contain the opioid buprenorphine, which may cause physical dependence.

How does Probuphine work?

- Four implants are inserted under the skin of your upper arm during a procedure done in your physician's office or Opioid Treatment Program (OTP).
- The implants remain in your arm for six months.
- After the six-month period, your doctor must remove the implants.
- If you wish to continue Probuphine, your doctor may insert new implants to continue treatment.
- The implants can be removed sooner if you want to stop treatment.
- Patients must continue to see their doctor at least every month while on Probuphine therapy.

What are the Risks Related to the Insertion and Removal of Probuphine Implants?

- There is a risk of accidental overdose, abuse, and misuse for others if the implants come out and others are exposed to them.
- There is a rare but serious risk that the drug implant, if inserted improperly, may move (migrate) into the blood vessels and to your lung, and could lead to death.
- An implant may come out by itself, or an end of an implant may begin sticking out of your skin.
- Injury or damage to nerves or blood vessels in your arm may happen during the insertion and/or removal procedures.
- Implants may be hard to find if:
  - They are too deep for your doctor to feel.
  - You try to move them around under your skin.
  - You have gained a lot of weight since they were inserted.
- Special procedures, tests, or a referral to a specialist may be needed to find and remove the implants if they are difficult to locate.

Probuphine (buprenorphine) implant

- There are common risks associated with any minor surgical procedure, such as:
  - Itching, pain, irritation or redness, swelling, bleeding, or bruising at the insertion site.
  - Scarring around the insertion site.

What Should I do After the Probuphine Implants Have Been Inserted?

- Follow your doctor's instructions for wound care of the place where the implants were inserted or removed.

- Do not try to remove Probuphine implants yourself.
  - Improper removal carries the risk of implant site infection.
  - If you remove the implants, you could become sick with uncomfortable withdrawal signs and symptoms because your body has become used to this medicine.

- If the Probuphine implants come out:
  - Wash your hands if you have touched the Probuphine implants.
  - Cover the area where the implants were inserted with a clean bandage.
  - Do not allow others to touch or use the Probuphine implants, since this could be very dangerous.
  - Put the implants in a plastic bag and take the implants to your doctor right away.
  - Keep the implants in a safe and secure place, away from others, especially children.
  - Protect the implants from theft until you can return them to your doctor.

Where Can I Get More Information About Probuphine?

There is a **Probuphine Medication Guide** that the healthcare provider who inserts the Probuphine implants will give you each time the implants are inserted. You can also find more information at www.ProbuphineREMS.com or by calling the Probuphine REMS Program at 1-844-859-6341.

What Should I Do if I Have More Questions?

Please use the space below to write down any other questions you have for your doctor. You can ask them at your next appointment or when you return to start Probuphine.