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Bunavail

Generic name: [buprenorphine and naloxone](#) (oral/sublingual) [*BUE-pre-NOR-feen-and-nal-OX-one*]

Drug class: [Narcotic analgesic combinations](#)

Medically reviewed by [Philip Thornton, DipPharm](#). Last updated on Apr 23, 2024.

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The Bunavail brand name has been **discontinued** in the U.S. If generic versions of this product have been approved by the FDA, there may be [generic equivalents available](#).

What is Bunavail?

Bunavail buccal films contains a combination of buprenorphine and naloxone. [Buprenorphine](#) is an opioid medication, sometimes called a narcotic. [Naloxone](#) blocks the effects of opioid medication, including pain relief or feelings of well-being that can lead to opioid abuse.

Bunavail buccal films are used to treat [opioid addiction](#).

Bunavail is not for use as a pain medication.

Warnings

MISUSE OF OPIOID MEDICINE CAN CAUSE ADDICTION, OVERDOSE, OR DEATH. Keep the medication in a place where others cannot get to it.

Using Bunavail during pregnancy may cause life-threatening withdrawal symptoms in the newborn.

Fatal side effects can occur if you use Bunavail with alcohol, or with other drugs that cause drowsiness or slow your breathing.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use Bunavail if you are allergic to buprenorphine or naloxone ([Narcan](#)).

To make sure Bunavail is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- tooth problems, including a history of cavities;

- breathing problems, [sleep apnea](#);
- [enlarged prostate](#), urination problems;
- liver or kidney disease;
- abnormal curvature of the spine that affects breathing;
- problems with your gallbladder, adrenal gland, or thyroid;
- a [head injury](#), [brain tumor](#), or [seizures](#); or
- [alcoholism](#) or [drug addiction](#).

If you use Bunavail while you are pregnant, your baby could become dependent on this medicine. This can cause life-threatening withdrawal symptoms in the baby after it is born. Babies born dependent on [opioids](#) may need medical treatment for several weeks.

Ask a doctor before using Bunavail if you are breastfeeding. Tell your doctor if you notice severe drowsiness or slow breathing in the nursing baby.

 [Bunavail pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

How should I take Bunavail?

Use Bunavail buccal films exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Follow the directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides. Never use Bunavail in larger amounts, or for longer than prescribed. Tell your doctor if you feel an increased urge to use more of this medicine.

Never share Bunavail with another person, especially someone with a history of drug abuse or addiction.

MISUSE CAN CAUSE ADDICTION, OVERDOSE, OR DEATH. Keep the medicine in a place where others cannot get to it. Selling or giving away Bunavail is against the law.

Read and carefully follow any Instructions for Use provided with your medicine. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you do not understand these instructions.

Rinse your mouth with water after the Bunavail film dissolves. Wait one hour after the medicine dissolves to brush your teeth to prevent damage to the teeth and gums. You should receive regular dental checkups while using Bunavail.

If you switch between medicines containing buprenorphine, you may not use the same dose for each one. Follow all directions carefully.

Do not stop using Bunavail suddenly, or you could have unpleasant withdrawal symptoms. Ask your doctor how to safely stop using this medicine.

You will need frequent blood tests to check your liver function.

All your medical care providers should know that you are being treated for opioid addiction, and that you take Bunavail. Make sure your family members know how to provide this information in case they need to speak for you during an emergency.

Never crush or break a Bunavail pill to inhale the powder or mix it into a liquid to inject the drug into your vein. This practice has resulted in death.

Store Bunavail films in the foil pouch at room temperature, away from moisture and heat. Discard an empty pouch in a place children and pets cannot get to. Keep track of your medicine. You should be aware if anyone is using it improperly or without a prescription.

Do not keep leftover opioid medication. **Just one dose can cause death in someone using Bunavail accidentally or improperly.** Ask your pharmacist where to locate a drug take-back disposal program. If there is no take-back program, remove any unused films from the foil pack and flush the films down the toilet. Throw the empty foil pack into the trash.

 [Bunavail patient tips](#) (more detail)

Dosing information

Usual Adult Dose for Opiate Dependence: Buprenorphine monotherapy is generally used for induction. Bunavail may be used for induction in patients dependent on heroin or short-acting opioid products. Note - one Bunavail 4.2 mg/0.7 mg buccal film provides the equivalent buprenorphine exposure to one Suboxone 8 mg/2 mg sublingual tablet.

INDUCTION dose: Day 1: Initial dose: 2.1 mg/0.3 mg buccally; followed in intervals of approximately 2 hours with additional doses to a total dose of 4.2 mg/0.7 mg to control acute withdrawal symptoms

Day 2: a single dose up to 8.4 mg/1.4 mg buccally.

MAINTENANCE Treatment: Doses should be adjusted to a level that holds the patient in treatment and suppresses opioid withdrawal signs and symptoms; doses should be titrated to clinical effectiveness as rapidly as possible as gradual titration may lead to higher drop-out rates.

-Progressively adjust in increments/decrements of 2.1 mg/0.3 mg to a level that holds the patient in treatment and suppresses opioid withdrawal signs and symptoms.

-Recommended target dose: 8.4 mg/1.4 mg buccally once a day; range 2.1 mg/0.3 mg to 12.6 mg/2.1 mg

Maximum dose: 12.6 mg/ 2.1 mg buccally once a day.

 [Detailed Bunavail dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Take the medicine as soon as you can, but skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next dose. Do not take two doses at one time.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222. **An opioid overdose can be fatal, especially in a child or other person using the medicine without a prescription.** Overdose symptoms may include severe drowsiness, pinpoint pupils, slow breathing, or no breathing.

What should I avoid while taking Bunavail?

Do not drink alcohol. Dangerous side effects or death could occur.

Avoid driving or operating machinery until you know how Bunavail will affect you. [Dizziness](#) or severe drowsiness can cause falls, accidents, or severe injuries.

Buprenorphine and naloxone side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction to Bunavail**: [hives](#); difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Opioid medicine can slow or stop your breathing, and death may occur. A person caring for you should seek emergency medical attention if you have slow breathing with long pauses, blue colored lips, or if you are hard to wake up.

Call your doctor at once or seek emergency medical attention if you have:

- any problems with your teeth or gums;
- weak or shallow breathing, breathing that stops during sleep;
- a light-headed feeling, like you might pass out;
- confusion, loss of coordination, extreme weakness;
- blurred vision, slurred speech;
- **liver problems** - upper stomach pain, loss of appetite, dark urine, clay-colored stools, [jaundice](#) (yellowing of the skin or eyes);
- **high levels of serotonin in the body** - [agitation](#), hallucinations, fever, sweating, shivering, [fast heart rate](#), muscle stiffness, twitching, loss of coordination, [nausea](#), [vomiting](#), [diarrhea](#);
- **low cortisol levels** - nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, dizziness, worsening tiredness or weakness; or
- **opioid withdrawal symptoms** - shivering, goose bumps, increased sweating, feeling hot or cold, [runny nose](#), watery eyes, diarrhea, muscle pain.

Serious breathing problems may be more likely in older adults and those who are debilitated or have [wasting syndrome](#) or chronic breathing disorders.

Common Bunavail side effects may include:

- dizziness, drowsiness, blurred vision, feeling drunk, trouble concentrating;
- withdrawal symptoms;
- tongue pain, redness or numbness inside your mouth;
- nausea, vomiting, [constipation](#);
- [headache](#), [back pain](#);
- fast or pounding heartbeats, increased sweating; or
- sleep problems ([insomnia](#)).

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Bunavail side effects](#) (more detail)

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What other drugs will affect Bunavail?

You may have breathing problems or withdrawal symptoms if you start or stop taking certain other medicines. Tell your doctor if you also use an [antibiotic](#), antifungal medication, heart or blood pressure medication, seizure medication, or medicine to treat [HIV](#) or hepatitis C.

Opioid medication can interact with many other drugs and cause dangerous side effects or death. Be sure your doctor knows if you also use:

- cold or allergy medicines, bronchodilator [asthma/COPD](#) medication, or a diuretic ("water pill");
- medicines for [motion sickness](#), [irritable bowel syndrome](#), or [overactive bladder](#);
- **other opioids** - opioid pain medicine or prescription cough medicine;
- **a sedative like Valium** - [diazepam](#), [alprazolam](#), [lorazepam](#), [Xanax](#), [Klonopin](#), [Ativan](#), and others;
- **drugs that make you sleepy or slow your breathing** - a sleeping pill, muscle relaxer, medicine to treat mood disorders or mental illness; or
- **drugs that affect serotonin levels in your body** - a stimulant, or medicine for [depression](#), [Parkinson's disease](#), [migraine](#) headaches, serious infections, or [nausea and vomiting](#).

This list is not complete. Other drugs may interact with buprenorphine and naloxone, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). Not all possible interactions are listed here.

 [Bunavail drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does Bunavail interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

Bunavail

+

Enter a drug name

Add

Alternatives to Bunavail

There are alternative drugs and different dosage forms available to treat opioid use disorder.

Talk with your healthcare provider which option would be best suited to you.

Buprenorphine

- IM injection ([Sublocade](#)), Implant ([Probuphine](#)), Sublingual ([Subutex](#))

Buprenorphine and naloxone

- Sublingual ([Suboxone](#), [Zubsolv](#))

Lofexidine

- Tablets ([Lucemyra](#))

Methadone

- Tablets ([Dolophine](#))

Naltrexone

- IM injection ([Vivitrol](#)), [Naltrexone tablets](#)

For opioid overdose in an emergency situation:

Naloxone

- Nasal spray ([Narcan](#), [Kloxxado](#)). [Naloxone injection](#)

Other related medicines:

Buprenorphine for severe pain:

- IM injection ([Buprenex](#)), Sublingual ([Belbuca](#)), Transdermal patch ([Butrans](#))

Popular FAQ

What are the different types of buprenorphine/naloxone?



More FAQ

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- [Why was Bunavail discontinued?](#)

- [How long does Bunavail \(buprenorphine/naloxone\) take to dissolve?](#)
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More about Bunavail (buprenorphine / naloxone)

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Patient resources

Other brands

[Suboxone](#), [Zubsolv](#), [Cassipa](#)

Professional resources

- [Bunavail Buccal Film prescribing information](#)

Other brands

[Suboxone](#), [Zubsolv](#)

Related treatment guides

- [Opioid Use Disorder](#)

Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use Bunavail only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

DRUG STATUS

- 

Availability

Discontinued
- 

Pregnancy & Lactation

Risk data available
- 

CSA Schedule*

Moderate abuse potential
- 

Approval History

Drug history at FDA
- 

WADA Class

Anti-Doping Classification

User Reviews & Ratings

6.0 / 10

61 Reviews

Images

Bunavail buprenorphine 2.1 mg / naloxone 0.3 mg (BN2)



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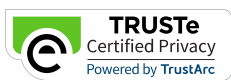
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