

## **An open-label, multicentre, single-arm trial of monthly injections of extended release buprenorphine in people with opioid use disorder: the CoLAB study**

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**Introduction and Aims:** The Community Long-Acting Buprenorphine (CoLAB) study aimed to evaluate patient outcomes among people with OUD receiving 48 weeks of BUP-XR treatment and examined the implementation of BUP-XR in diverse community healthcare settings in Australia.

**Design and Methods:** Participants were recruited from a network of GP and specialist drug treatment services (n=100). Following a minimum 7 days on 8–32 mg of sublingual buprenorphine ( $\pm$ naloxone), participants received monthly subcutaneous Sublocade® injections at intervals of 28 days ( $-2/+14$  days) and completed monthly research interviews. The primary endpoint was participant retention in treatment at 48 weeks after treatment initiation.

**Results:** Participants comprised of 28 females and 72 males with a mean age of 45. All participants had a long-established history of OAT with heroin (57%) and prescription opioid (33%) being the predominant primary opioid of concern. The proportion of participants retained in treatment at 24 and 48 weeks following initiation of BUP-XR was 82% and 76%, respectively. Most participants (83%) reported that overall, they were extremely or very satisfied with the treatment at the end of study, primarily with the convenience, time, and planning requirements of BUP-XR.

**Discussions and Conclusions:** The CoLAB study was a real world implementation study of BUP-Treatment was successfully introduced into a broad range of clinical and community settings. The majority transferred successfully from oral to depot with minor AEs and there was high retention and treatment satisfaction over the first 48 weeks of treatment.

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