

Discontinuing OUD Medication

- MOUD should be continued for as long as the patient is deriving benefit, meeting treatment goals, and tolerating side effects
- Strongest evidence for 3 to 5 years **minimum**
- Patients discontinuing MOUD should have ready access and education on how to use naloxone

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- Naltrexone = discontinue without taper
- Buprenorphine & Methadone = must be tapered to avoid withdrawal
 - Slowly tapering (10% of total dose per 1-2 weeks or longer)
- Patients should be monitored closely for:
 - Relapse
 - Withdrawal symptoms
 - Cravings