TITLE: Naltrexone for Opioid Dependence: Clinical Effectiveness

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RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of naltrexone, alone or in combination with other therapies, for treatment of opioid dependence?

2. What is the evidence for the length of treatment with naltrexone for opioid dependence?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including OVID Medline, the Cochrane Library (Issue 3, 2009), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. The search was limited to English language articles published between 2004 and September 2009. Filters were applied to limit the retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, and randomized controlled trials. Internet links were provided, where available.

RESULTS:

HTIS reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials.

One health technology assessment, six systematic reviews and meta-analyses, and six randomized controlled trials were identified regarding the clinical effectiveness of naltrexone, alone or in combination with other therapies, for treatment of opioid dependence. An additional article that may be of interest can be found in the appendix.
Health technology assessments


Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Randomized controlled trials


PREPARED BY:
Michelle Clark, BSc, Research Assistant
Jessie Cunningham, MISt, Information Specialist
Health Technology Inquiry Service
Email: htis@cadth.ca
Tel: 1-866-898-8439
APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Randomized controlled trials