What is Vivitrol?

Vivitrol is an opiate blocker

Vivitrol is an injectable medication that is provided every 28 days to block the effects of opiate use. The result is that even if you do use, you will not feel the effects. Most people also experience a significant reduction in cravings while on this medication. Typical course of treatment for Vivitrol is 6-12 months.

What if I say yes to Vivitrol while I am in the Dane County Jail?

If you express interest in Vivitrol after going through detox, your name will be given to Journey’s clinicians by the jail medical staff. These clinicians will then come to see you in the jail to assess your appropriateness for the program. Due to high levels of interest please do not submit your name for referral if you are not fully invested or will not be available to participate in treatment services in the community.

Journey Mental Health Center

49 Kessel Court
Madison, WI, 53711

www.journeymhc.org

Due to the need for concurrent therapy along with medication for opioid use disorders, the term “treatment with a medication component” is replacing “medication assisted therapy” in order to emphasize the importance of therapy in the recovery process.

Best outcomes are achieved with medication and treatment
Journey’s Vivitrol Program

Research has indicated that medication alone is not enough to sustain recovery from Substance Use Disorders. Because of this, Journey requires that consumers participating in the Vivitrol program engage in therapy in addition to receiving monthly injections. Failure to follow through with program expectations could result in discontinuation of medications and discharge from the program.

Responsibilities of the consumer include:

- Attend a weekly Vivitrol group and provide a UA sample at that time.
- Complete a course of Foundations groups.
- Work towards abstinence from all mood altering substances, including alcohol.
- Receive all injections on time.
- Meet with an individual counselor as needed to discuss issues related to recovery.
- Meet with a prescriber every 3 months in order to monitor progress in the Vivitrol program.
- Sign releases to any other medical providers.
- Provide a UA sample at each time.
- Attend a weekly Vivitrol group and receipt of previous services.
- Provide a UA sample at each time.

What are side effects from the injection? There have been some known side effects but they are not certain to occur. Common ones include fatigue, headaches, and soreness at the injection site. These will be reviewed more thoroughly when you see a clinician.

What if I use other substances while on Vivitrol? Vivitrol does not have any effect on substances other than opiates (and to some extent, alcohol). Our program goal is abstinence from all substances, but we do understand that relapses occur. If this does happen, we expect consumers to continue to work with their clinicians in order to monitor progress and to develop a relapse prevention plan. In the event of ongoing or dangerous use, a referral to a higher level of care will be made.

Am I eligible for services? A grant through Dane County ensures that people should be able to get initial injections through Dane County’s program. Continued services will require insurance coverage compatible with Journey. We serve BadgerCare Plus. If you need information about our services, please visit our website or call us.

What other services are available? Consumers that participate in this program are eligible for all other Journey services including groups, individual counseling, and psychiatry services.

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Your Recovery Just Ahead