Brixadi
(Buprenorphine extended-release)

Unity ESUD

Brixadi (buprenophine extended release)

- Brixadi is a Partial Opioid Agonist.
- Brixadi is an extended release prescription medication used to treat moderate to severe opioid use disorder.
- Brixadi is a schedule III controlled substance.
- Brixadi is part of the U.S. Food and Drug's Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) program and should be administered by health professionals only due to the serious risk of harm of death from self-injection into the vein (IV).
- Brixadi is administered as a **subcutaneous injection**.
- Brixadi should not be taken with other opioids, benzodiazepines, alcohol or other central nervous system depressants.
- There are both weekly and monthly formulations of Brixadi. These are not interchangeable.
- Only weekly formulations of Brixadi will be used at Unity and only in the PES/ESUD.

Brixadi (buprenorphine extended release

Buprenorphine levels continue to rise for 24 hours following injection.

Unity providers may order supplemental buprenorphine within the first 24 hours depending on the patient’s symptoms.

Utilize comfort interventions and administer PRN comfort medications as ordered.

Brixadi - Available Formulations

- Weekly injections are available in the following doses:
- 8 mg
- 16 mg – Stocked at Unity
- 24 mg – Stocked at Unity
- 32 mg

Weekly injections can be used in patients who have started treatment with a single dose of a transmucosal buprenorphine product or who are already being treated with buprenorphine. Unity providers may order Brixadi without initial transmucosal buprenorphine dose. Refer to order.

- Monthly injections are available in the following doses:
- 64 mg
- 96 mg
- 128 mg
- 160 mg

Monthly injections may be given to patients in an outpatient setting. Monthly injections will not be administered at Unity.

Adverse Reactions and Side Effects

The most common adverse reactions include:

- Injection site pain
- Headache
- Constipation
- Nausea
- Injection site erythema
- Injection site pruritus
- Insomnia
- Sleepiness
- Urinary tract infections

Other Less Common Side Effects and Risks

- Decreased respiratory effort
- Hypoxia
- Slurred speech
- Vertigo
- Pre-syncope or syncope
- Confusion
- Blurred vision
- Jaundice, dark urine, light colored stools

Brixadi vs Sublocade Comparison

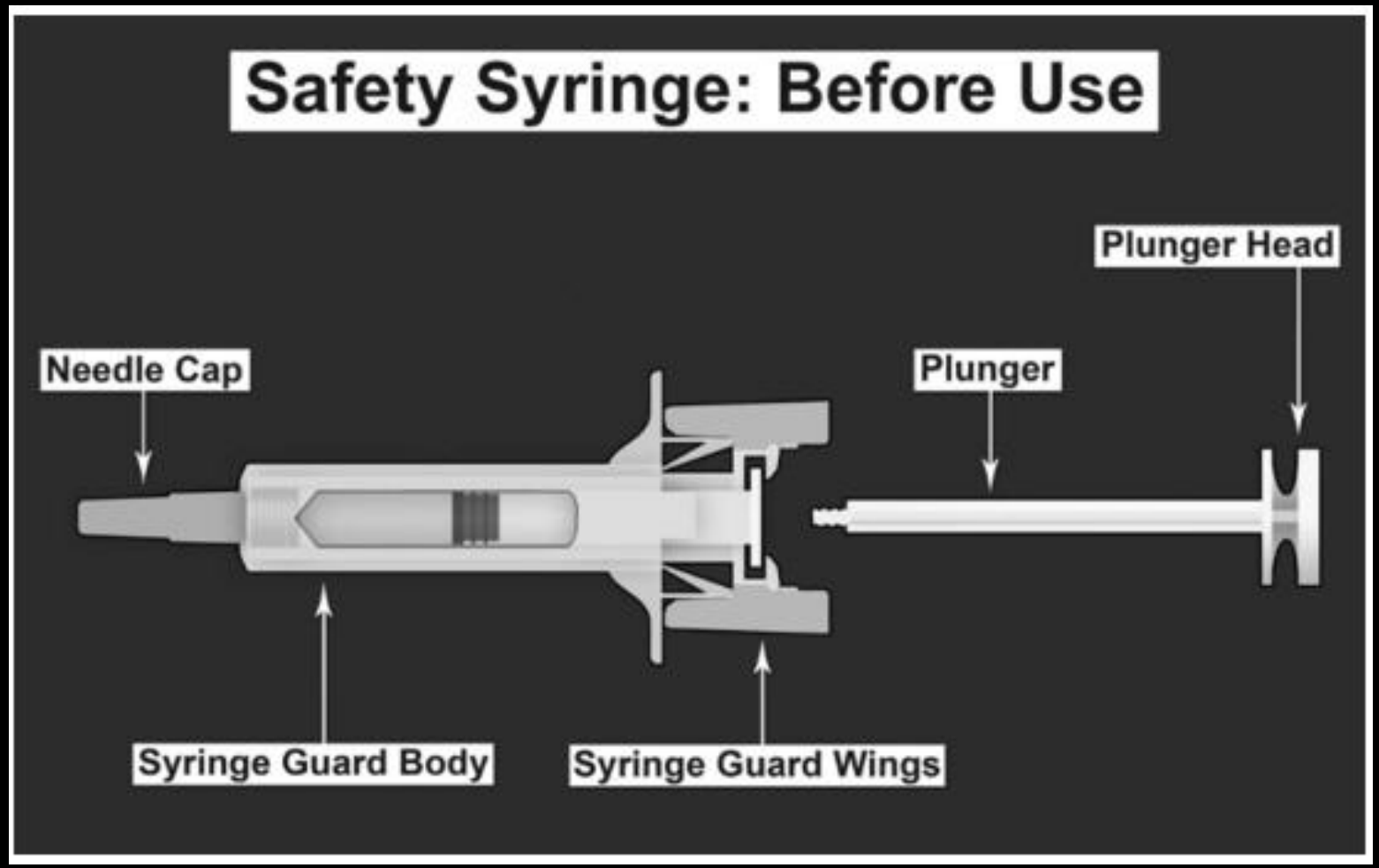
Brixadi

- Weekly or monthly injection
- May be given Sub-Q in abdomen, thigh, upper arm (additional precautions for upper arm injections. See Injection site slid #11)
- 4 monthly dosing options and 4 weekly dosing options
- Not recommended during pregnancy or for breastfeeding mothers.
- No tapering required when stopping treatment .

Sublocade

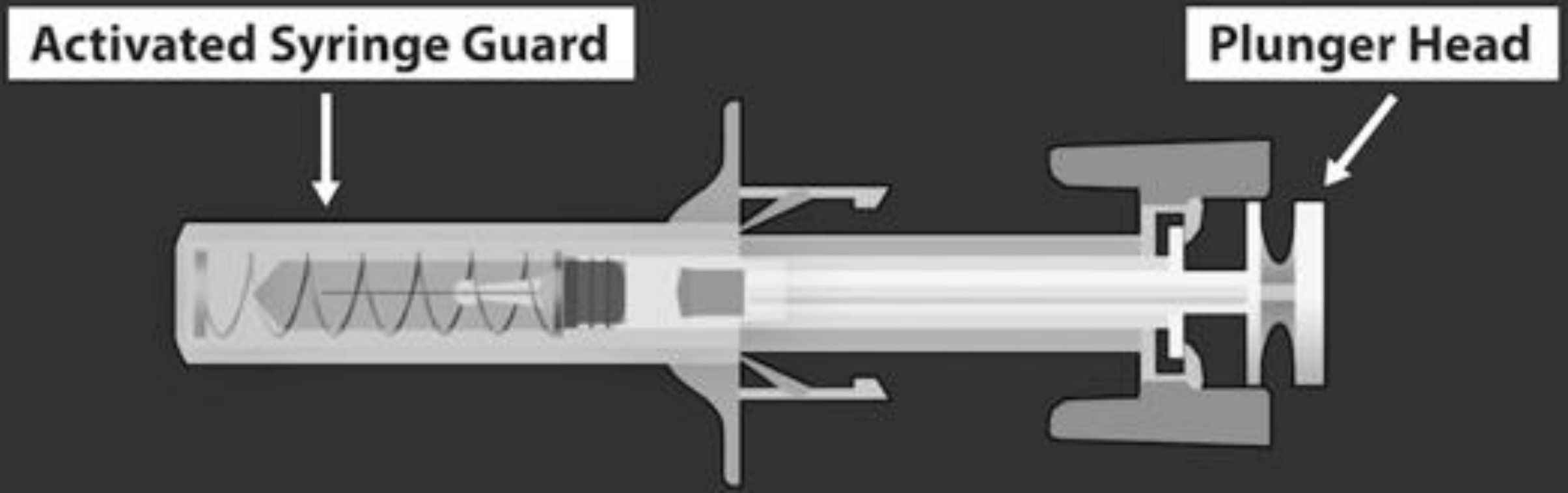
- Monthly injection
- Given Sub-Q in abdomen
- 2 monthly dosing options
- Safe for pregnant and breastfeeding mothers.
- Tapering period required when stopping treatment. Abruptly stopping medication can lead to withdrawal symptoms.

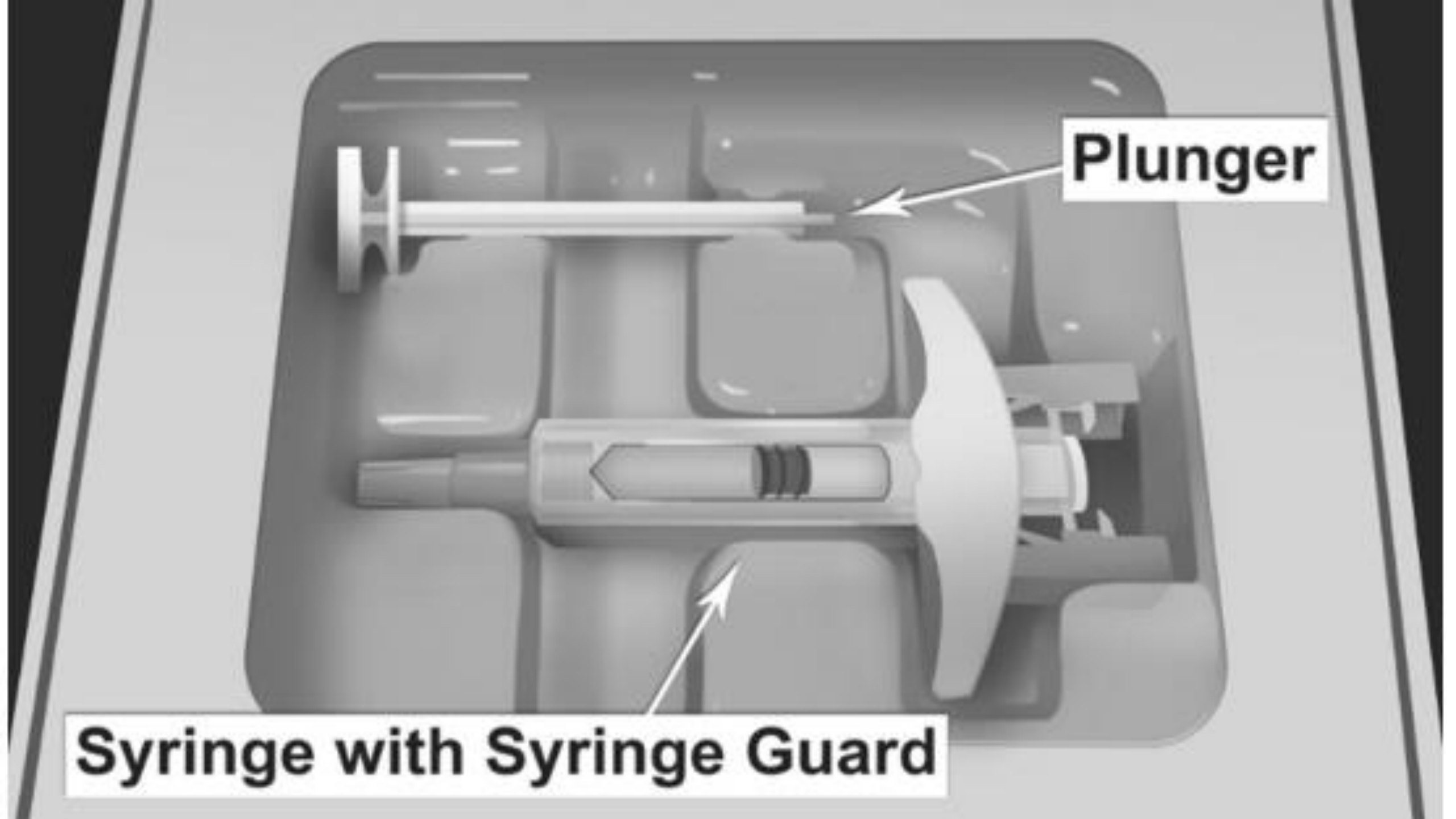
Brixadi Injection Instructions

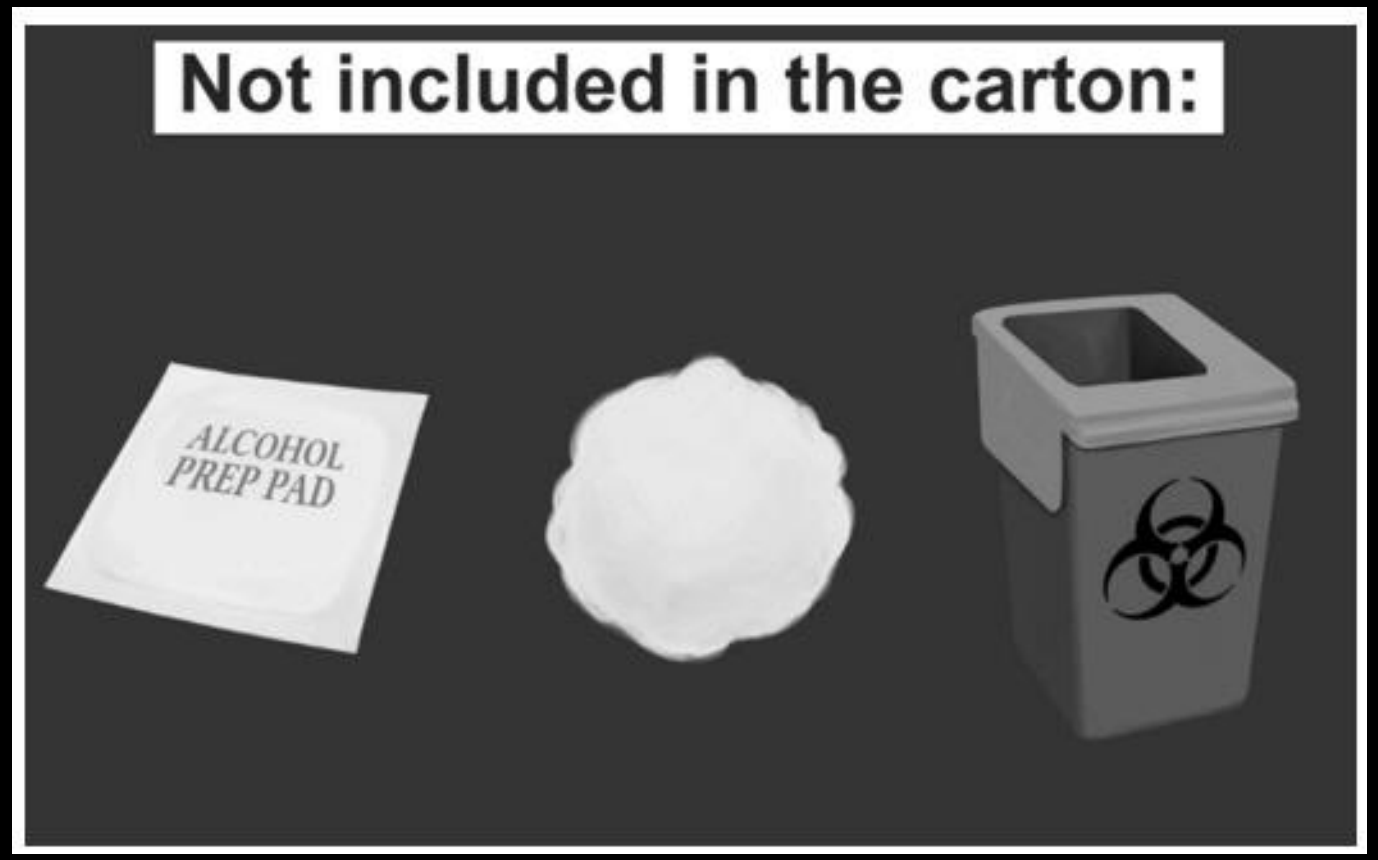


Safety Syringe: After Use

(With needle protection mechanism activated)




Plunger
Syringe with Syringe Guard



Materials Needed for Injection

- Alcohol wipe
- Cotton ball
- Sharps disposal container

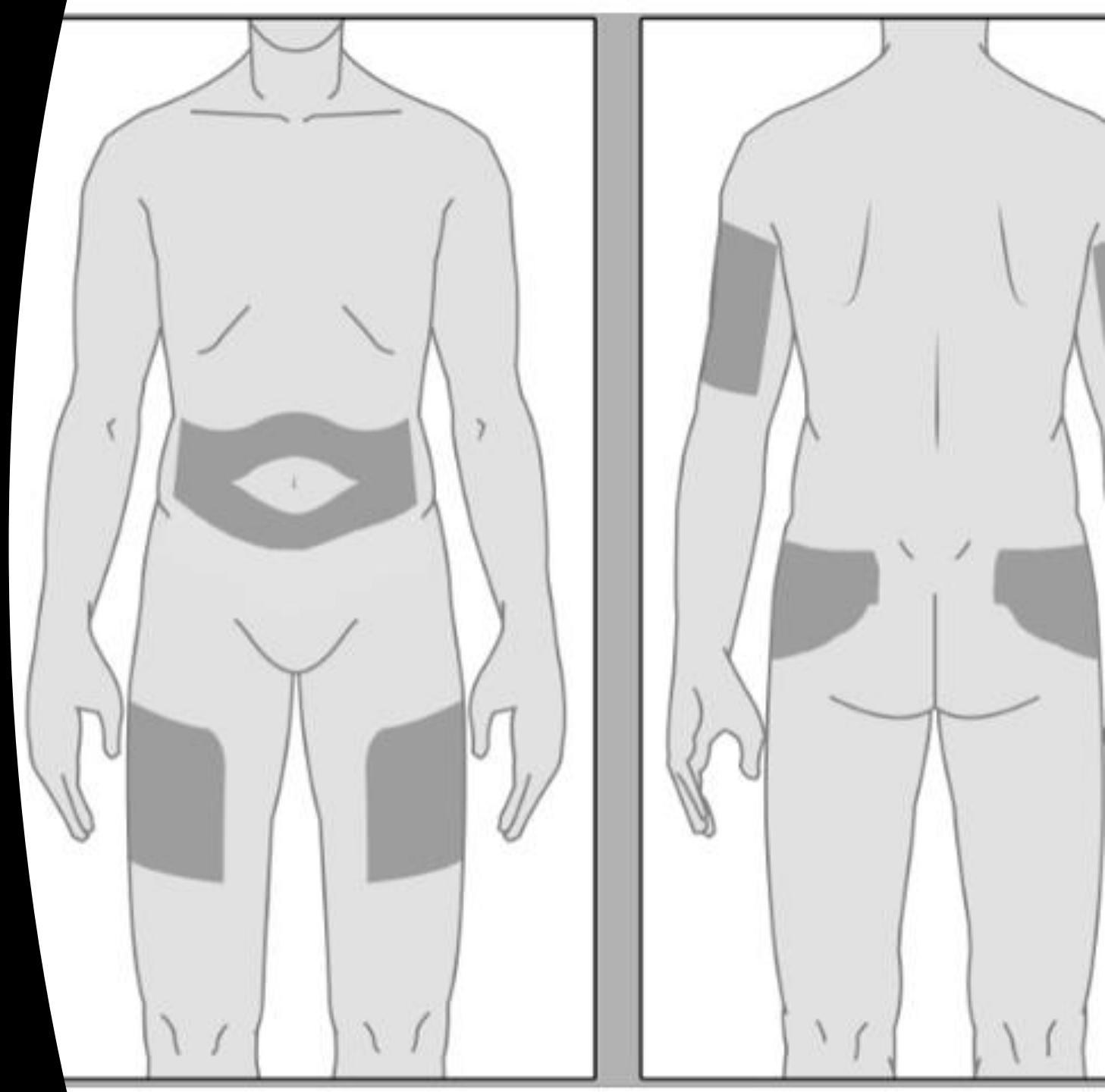
Selecting an injection site

BRIXADI should not be administered to the same site of injection for at least 8 weeks for BRIXADI (weekly).

No injection site rotation is required for BRIXADI (monthly).

BRIXADI should be injected slowly, into the subcutaneous tissue of the buttock, thigh, abdomen, or upper arm.

In patients who are not currently receiving buprenorphine treatment, for BRIXADI (weekly), the upper arm site should only be used after steady-state has been achieved (after 4 consecutive doses)



Prepare the Safety Syringe

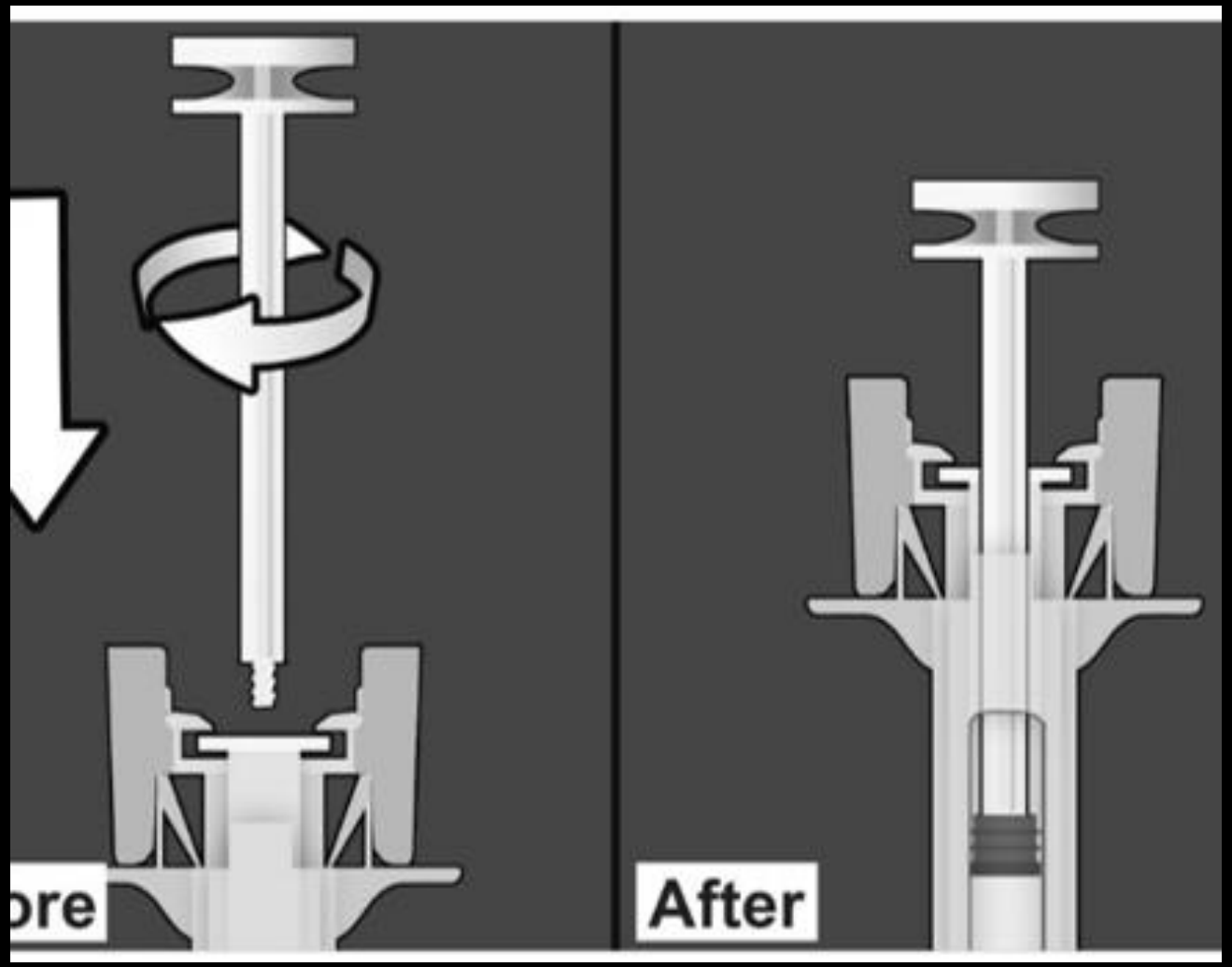
Step 1:
Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water prior to handling the safety syringe.

Step 2:
Remove the safety syringe components from the carton. Assemble the safety syringe. While holding the syringe guard body, insert the plunger into the body of the syringe and rotate clockwise until it is attached to the stopper inside the syringe.

Step 3:
Inspect the safety syringe closely.

Do not use the safety syringe after the expiration date shown on the carton or on the safety syringe label. The liquid should be clear and yellowish to yellow in color. A small air bubble may be visible.

Do not use the safety syringe if the liquid contains visible particles or is cloudy.



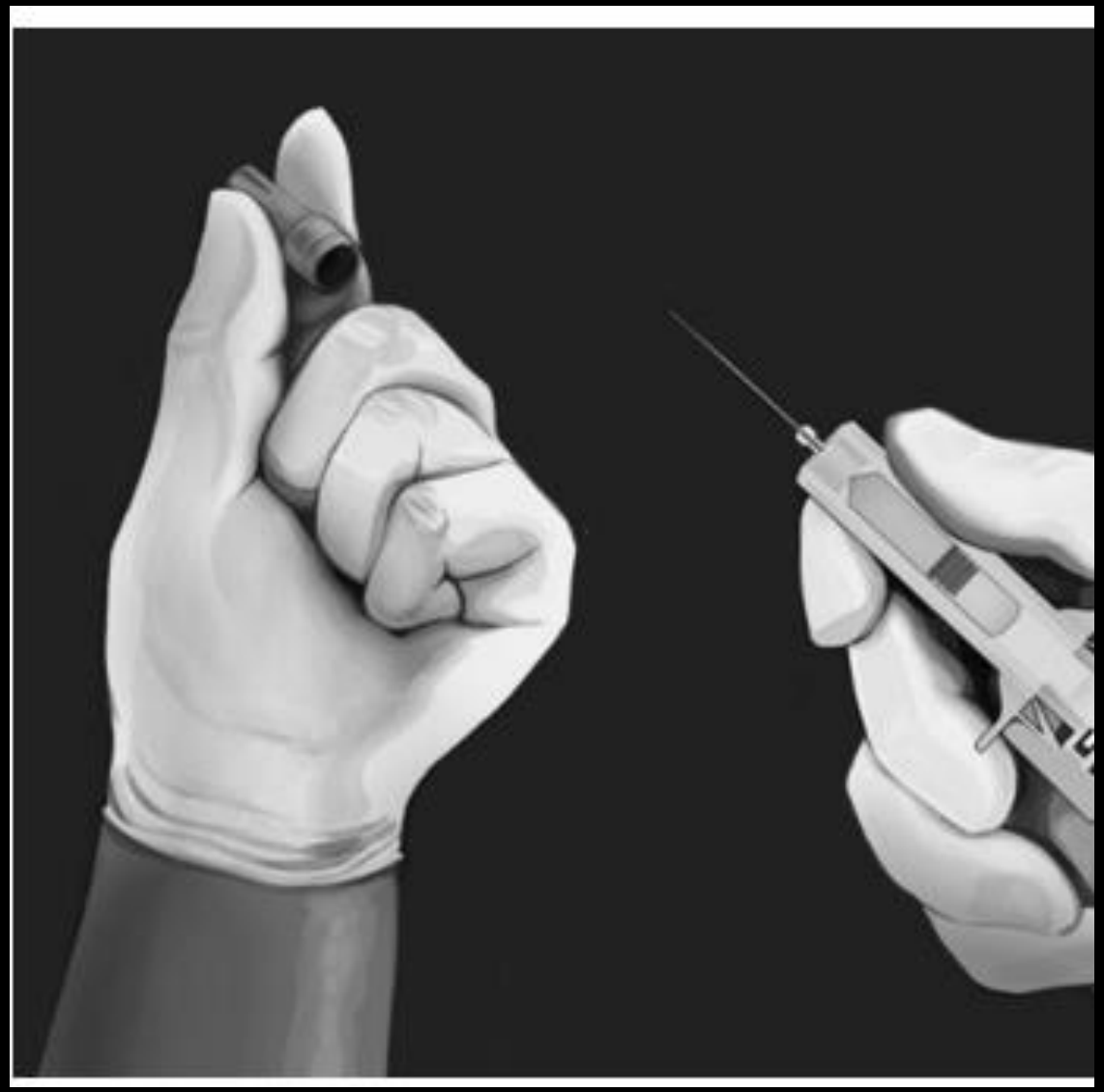
Preparation of Site

Step 4:

Put on gloves

Clean the injection site with an alcohol sway using a circular motion

Do not touch the cleaned area again before injection



Administering Injection

Step 5:

Grasp the safety syringe

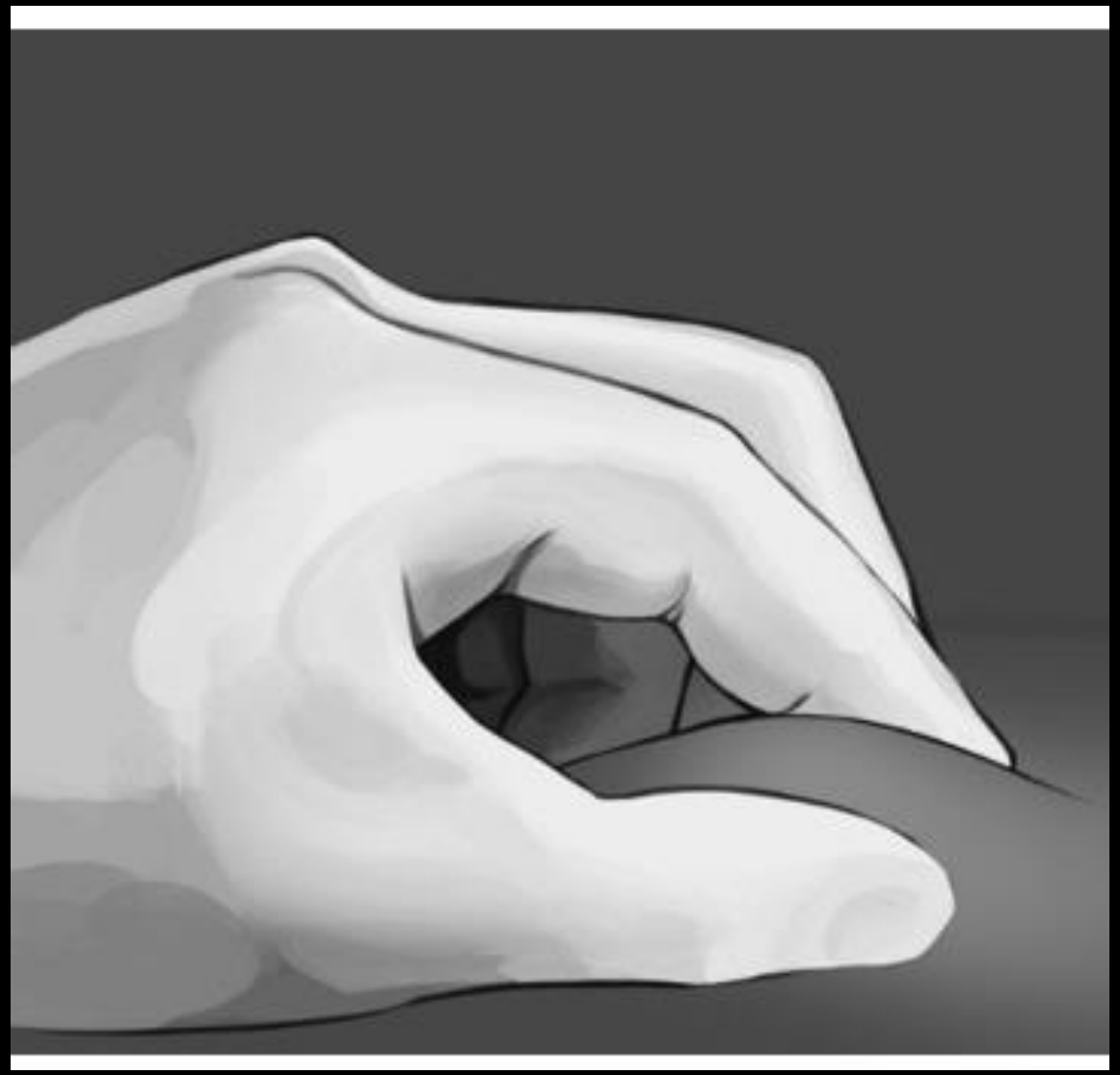
Carefully pull the needle cap straight off

Immediately dispose of the needle cap (never recap the needle). It is normal to see a small drop of liquid at the tip of the needle

Administering Injection

Step 6:

Pinch the skin at the injection site between your thumb and index finger



Administering Injection

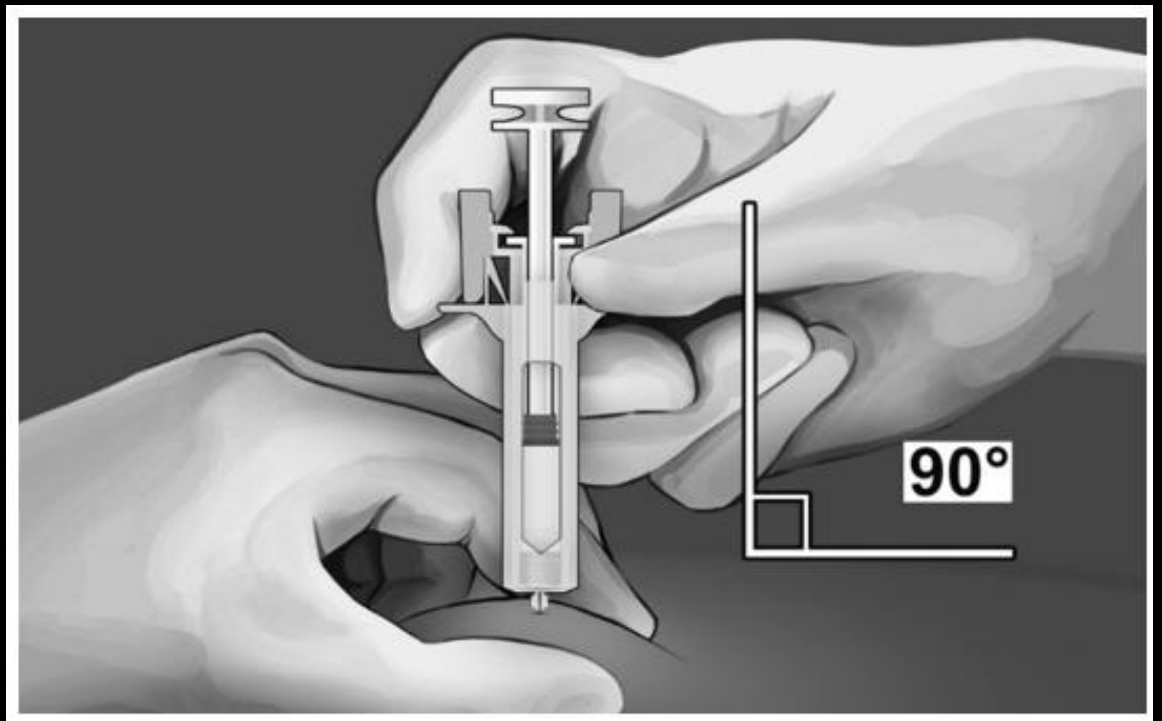
Step 7

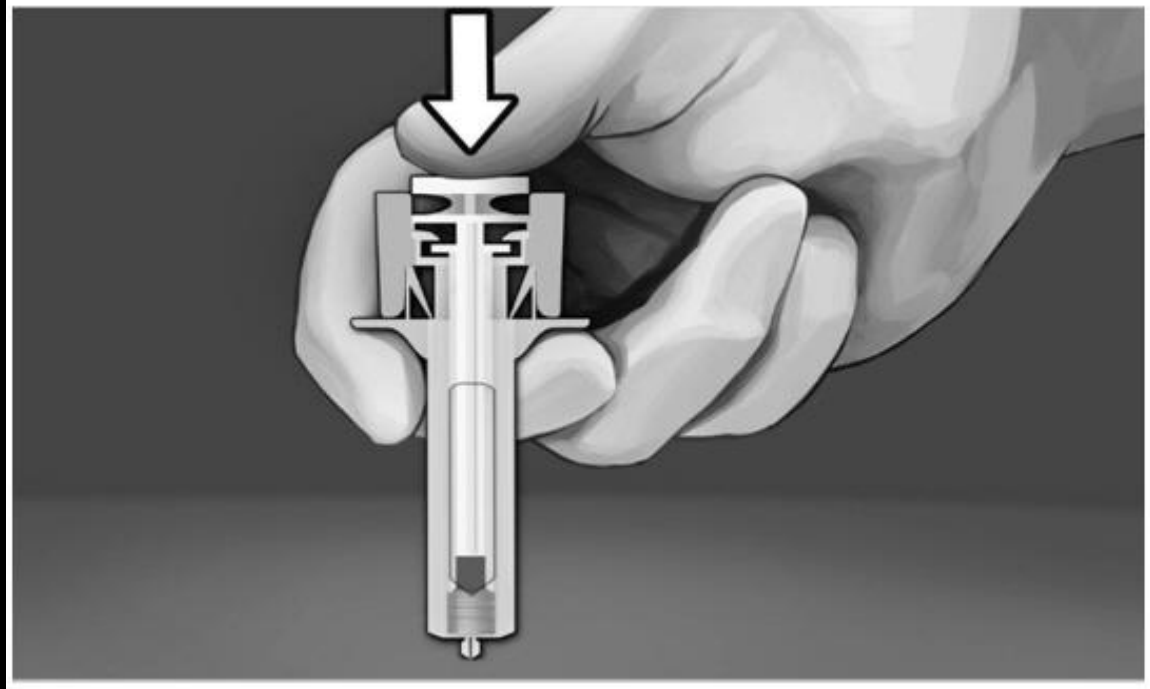
Insert the needle at an angle of 90 degrees. The needle is designed to inject into the subcutaneous space. It is important to fully insert the needle while ensuring you stay in the subcutaneous tissue.

Step 8

After the needle is completely inserted into the subcutaneous tissue, release the skin that you are grasping Slowly press down the plunger head until it latches in safety device wings. This will ensure that all the medication has been injected.

Keep the plunger pressed fully down while you hold the safety syringe in place for an additional 2 seconds.



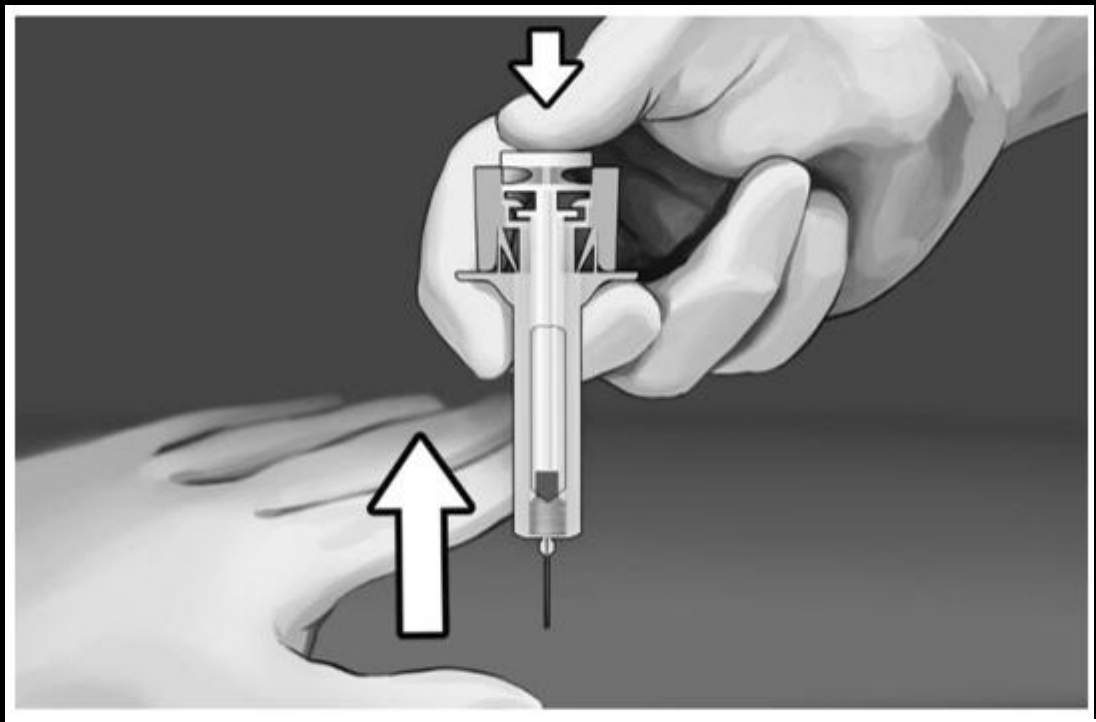


Administering Injection

Step 9

Gently pull the needle out of the skin.

Keep the plunger fully depressed while you carefully lift the needle straight out from the injection site.

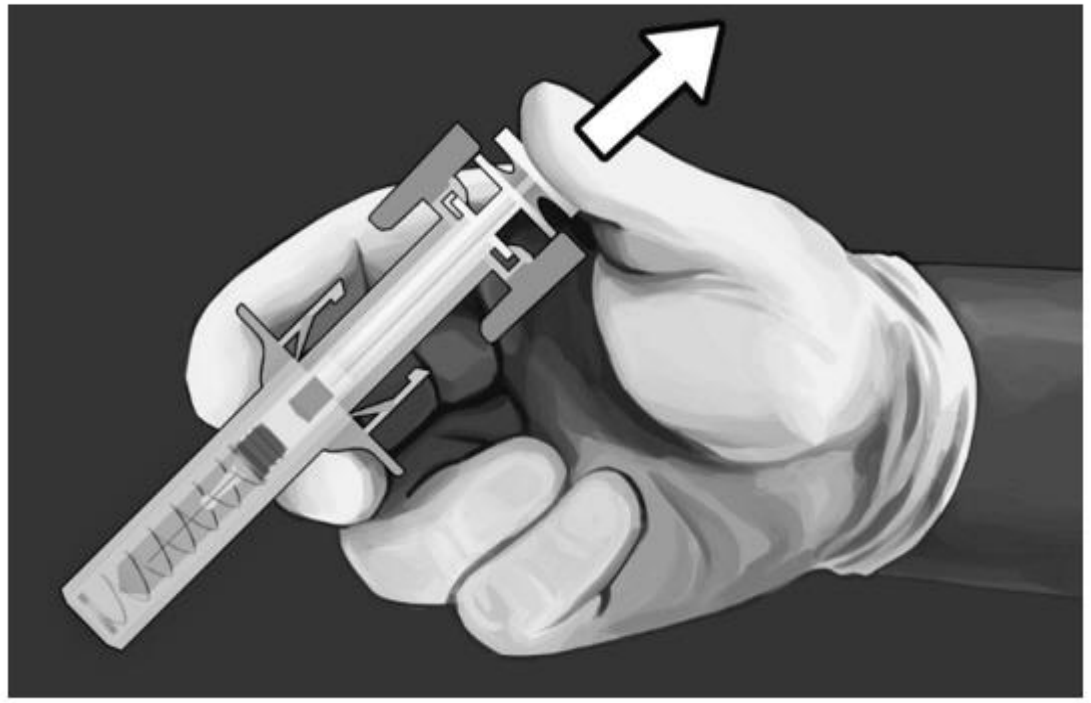


Step 10

As soon as you have completely removed the needle from the skin, slowly take your thumb off the plunger.

Allow the syringe guard to automatically covered the exposed needle.

There may be a small amount of blood at the injection site. If needed, wipe with a cotton ball or gauze.



Disposal of Used Safety Syringe

Step 11

Put the used safety syringe immediately into a sharps container.

Post Injection Care

- Examine the injections site
- If there is blood, press a cotton ball or gauze pad on the injection site
- Do not rub the injection site.
- Apply an adhesive bandage if needed.
- Patient should be instructed to notify you immediately if excessive swelling, redness, heat or drainage develops at injection site.

References

- U.S. Food and Drug Administration 2023 FDA Approves New Buprenorphine Treatment Option for Opioid Use Disorder | FDA
- Center Point DAAC The Pros & Cons: Brixadi vs Sublocade
- National Institute of Health These highlights do not include all the information needed to use BRIXADI safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for BRIXADI. BRIXADI® (buprenorphine) extended-release injection for subcutaneous use CIII Initial U.S. Approval: 2002