Subcutaneous Buprenorphine (Brixadi®) — Addition to Formulary, Restricted to Unity PES and ESUD

Brixadi is a long acting subcutaneous buprenorphine injection in weekly and monthly formulations. Only the weekly formulation is available and only in the PES and ESUD. Brixadi is part of the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) program to prevent patient self-administration as an IV injection, which can lead to serious injury or death. Only certified healthcare settings, Including Unity, can administer Brixadi.

Key Practice Points:

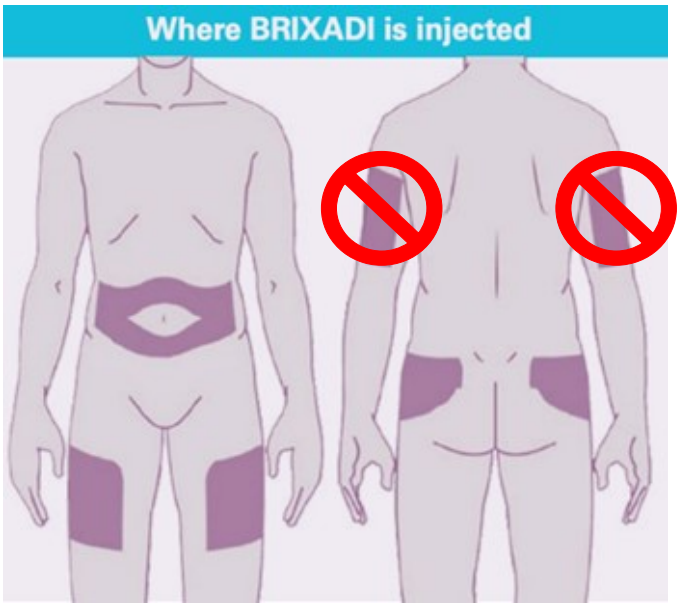
- The weekly formulation of subcutaneous buprenorphine (Brixadi®) - dose 24 mg, has been studied as induction therapy in emergency departments for patients with opioid use disorder, without prior sublingual stabilization.
- Patients admitted will be converted to sublingual therapy after induction.
- Comfort medications will be administered per standard practice. Consider using the Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Add-On order set, without other scheduled buprenorphine products.

Safety & Monitoring:

- Common side effects: Injection-site pain, headache, nausea, and constipation. Sedation, hypotension, and hepatitis are also potential adverse effects.
- Precipitated withdrawal is rare but can occur. There is a slow increase in plasma levels after administering a Brixadi weekly dose. Maximum plasma concentration are reached at about 24 hours after administration of Brixadi weekly.
- Patients require monitoring, for safety, for a minimum of 2 hours post administration.

Patient Education:

- Review the Medication Guide considerations with patients, prior to administration.



Administration:

- ◊ **Subcutaneous** injection sites include: buttock, thigh, stomach, or abdomen. (May only be administered in the arm after the first 4 doses)
- ◊ Follow Steps for Administration
- ◊ Note, the cap contains latex.

See the Formulary Review for Details

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