



NorthShore
MEDICAL GROUP

Buprenorphine/ Naloxone (Suboxone) Treatment

GENERAL INFORMATION

If you are reading this, then you or someone you love may have a serious problem with opioids (i.e. oxycodone, hydrocodone, heroin, morphine, etc). Addiction to these drugs is a terrible problem, but there is HOPE and you can recover. Suboxone (buprenorphine) is one option for helping you be free of these drugs. Opioid dependence/ addiction is a complex problem involving multiple areas of the brain and should be treated as a chronic illness.

NorthShore Medical Group has a Suboxone program started by Dr. Troy Witherrite. This program is only for very motivated individuals. His program is primarily to serve the residents of the Columbia River Gorge, but he will accept individuals from other regions/areas. The physician-patient relationship is critical to your success, and must be based on mutual respect and trust. You must be completely honest and open about your problems in order for the doctor to help you.

HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM ELIGIBLE FOR THE SUBOXONE PROGRAM?

Only your Suboxone prescribing doctor will be able to determine if you qualify at this time. The primary reason for success is your 100% commitment to getting well. In general, Dr. Witherrite does not treat withdrawals with Suboxone, and does not offer 1 to 2 week "detox" programs. If that is what you are looking for, then you will need to go to an inpatient detox/ treatment facility. The program here is mainly a maintenance and taper, which can last anywhere from 6 months to 2 years. Monthly visits with Dr. Witherrite are required. If you are not seen in a 60 day period, you will be removed from the program and will need a consultation visit to see if you can reenroll.

Please be aware some insurance companies have restrictions on payment for these services and/ or require prior authorization to approve the medication, both of which can take time. If you are planning to use your insurance to pay for Suboxone treatment, we ask you to work with our Business Office to confirm your coverage before scheduling an appointment.

COST OF TREATMENT

Initial Evaluation:
(includes visit and urine drug screen)
New Patient - \$406
Established Patient - \$294

Follow up Visits: \$165 or \$228 (depending on medical complexity)
Monthly visits are required

There is an additional monthly cost for the Suboxone medication itself, which you purchase directly from a pharmacy. The medication typically costs between \$400-\$600/ month.

If you are paying for the treatment directly (instead of through insurance), the charge of the visit must be paid in full at your appointment. If after evaluation it is determined you are not a candidate for the Suboxone program, the cost may be less and you will be refunded the difference.