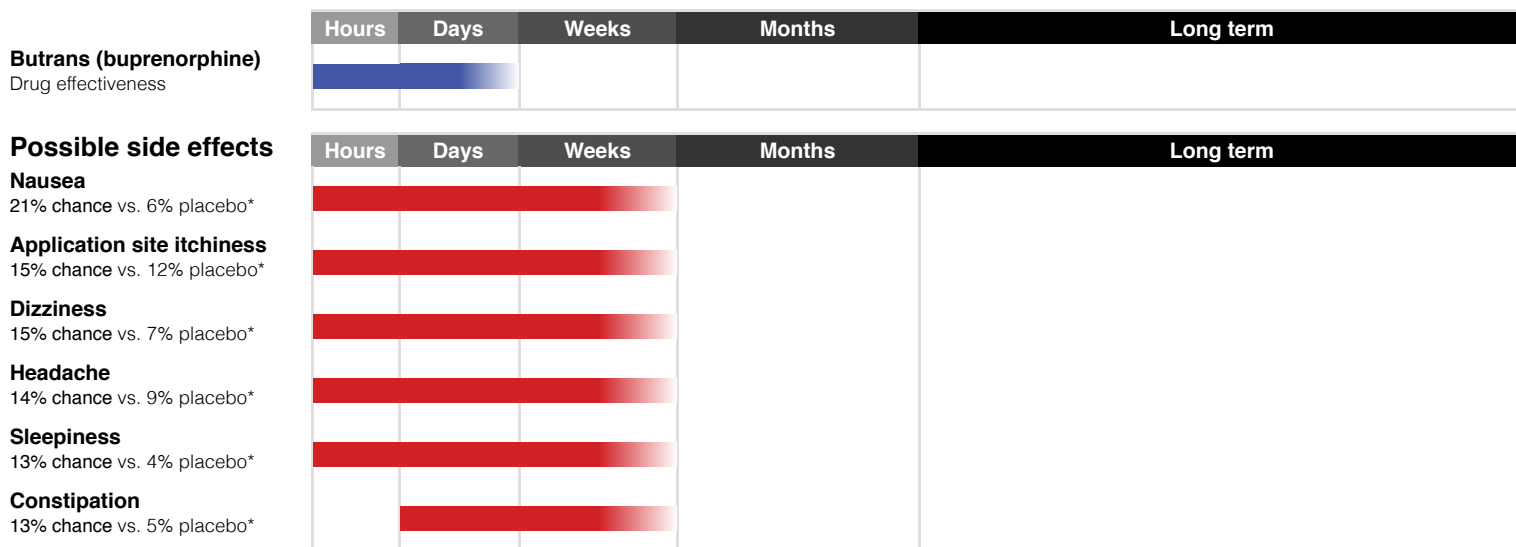


Treats severe pain around the clock. Butrans (buprenorphine) is effective for treating severe pain around-the-clock, but it has a high potential for abuse and misuse.

What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.



* Placebo is a sugar pill with no medicinal benefit.

Tips from pharmacists

- Should apply Butrans (buprenorphine) to a clean, dry, and hairless area of your skin.
- You should change the patch every 7 days and apply a new patch to a new site.
- You can shower or bathe as usual while wearing Butrans (buprenorphine), but avoid hot baths and tanning salons.
- Avoid drinking alcohol or taking other medicines that can cause drowsiness.
- Your doctor may have you continue to take oral pain relievers, while Butrans (buprenorphine) is kicking in. Do not stop Butrans (buprenorphine) until discussing with your doctor.
- Stop using the medicine if you experience difficulty breathing and call for emergency medical help if needed.

Risks and warnings

This drug carries significant risks, including addiction.

The FDA has identified these as possible serious or life-threatening risks with this medication. Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Potential for addiction, abuse, and misuse

Butrans (buprenorphine) has a high potential for abuse, misuse, or addiction, which can lead to complications such as overdose and death. A person can become addicted to it even at normal doses. Do not place Butrans (buprenorphine) in your mouth. Chewing or swallowing it might lead to a higher chance of choking and overdosing. Your doctor will determine if this is the right treatment option for you based on your history of drug use and medication taking habits.

Life-threatening effects on breathing

Butrans (buprenorphine) can slow down your rate of breathing even at the correct dosage. This can happen at any time you are on it. Your chances of experiencing this problem with breathing are highest within the first 24-72 hours of starting the medication or increasing the dosage.

Harm to fetus or newborn baby

If you are pregnant and have used Butrans (buprenorphine) for a long period of time, your newborn baby can experience withdrawal effects, which are potentially life-threatening if left untreated. You should discuss the risks and benefits of using this medicine with your doctor.

