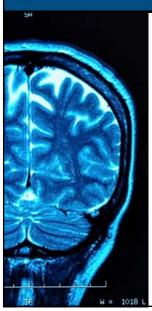
#### Proposed Regulation: Increase Number of Patients to Which DATA-Waived Physicians Can Prescribe Buprenorphine

White House Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

February 16, 2016



#### **Braeburn Pharmaceuticals**



- Pill-free neuropharmaceutical company
- Focus on long-acting medicines in neuroscience
  - Opioid addiction (buprenorphine)
  - Probuphine®
  - CAM2038
  - Pain (buprenorphine)
  - ▶ Schizophrenia (risperidone 6-month, ATI-9242)
- Objectives
  - Improve patient outcomes
  - Improve public health
  - Decrease social costs associated with drug diversion, misuse and non-adherence

#### **Opioid Abuse Crisis**

- 4.7 million Americans abuse opioids or heroin each year (SAMHSA, 2015)
- 2.4 million Americans are dependent on opioids and/or heroin (SAMHSA, 2015)
  - ▶ 311,718 patients taking methadone (Jones, et al., 2015)
  - ▶ 709,000 patients taking buprenorphine (Jones, et al., 2015)
  - ▶ 1.4 million patients in the "treatment gap" (Jones, et al., 2015)
- Over 29,000 Americans died from opioid-related overdoses in 2014 (CDC, 2015)
- Prescription opioid- and heroin-related deaths in the U.S. increased by 9% and 26%, respectively, between 2013 and 2014 (CDC, 2016)

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### **Key Considerations in Increasing Buprenorphine Treatment Access**

- 31,862 buprenorphine prescribers (10,281 at 100 limit) (SAMHSA, 2016)
- 30/100 patient limit results in wait lists (e.g., ~50% of ASAM Members) (ASAM, 2014)
- Patient limit creates demand for diverted buprenorphine
- Risks of diversion, misuse, and abuse must be addressed in expanding MAT access

By opening the door to a new generation of innovative medicines that <u>minimize diversion</u>, <u>abuse</u>, <u>misuse</u>, <u>accidental exposure</u>, <u>and non-compliance with doctor's directions</u>, the proposed regulation can <u>expand access</u> while <u>protecting public health</u>.

#### **Braeburn Letter to HHS Secretary Burwell**

- Recommended increasing patient limit in manner that reflects healthcare providers' capacity to provide highquality treatment
- Recommended promoting best practices in addiction treatment in manner that meets demand, provides appropriate reimbursement, and includes access in criminal justice system
- Recommended exemption for lower-risk patient populations:
  - Stable patients
  - ▶ Pregnant women
  - Patients treated with implantables and injectables

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### **Development of Implantable & Injectable Buprenorphine Products**

Multiple implantable and injectable buprenorphine products under development; expected to account for significant percentage of patients treated over next decade.

- Probuphine® buprenorphine subdermal implant under FDA review (FDA action expected February 27, 2016)
- Monthly injectable buprenorphine (Indivior) in Phase III development (anticipated commercialization by 2018)
- CAM2038 weekly and monthly subcutaneous buprenorphine injection products (Braeburn) in Phase III development (anticipated commercialization by 2018)

### Probuphine® Implant: What It Is, How It Works









- Each implant contains 80 mg of buprenorphine
- Administered directly to patients
- Requires office-based sterile procedure
  - ▶ 4 implants inserted sub-dermally in the upper arm



- Continuous delivery over 6 months
- Implants removed after six months; new implants can be administered in other arm

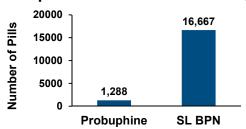
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# Probuphine® Implant: FDA Review, Trials, Advisory Committee

- Granted priority review by FDA
- Studied in 647 subjects over the last 12 years
  - Probuphine safety comparable to approved products
  - Insertion/removal procedures generally well-tolerated
- Study PRO-814
  - Head-to-head study with sublingual buprenorphine as active comparator
  - Probuphine "non-inferior" to sublingual buprenorphine
  - ▶ Totality of evidence supports the benefit of Probuphine for clinically stable patients
- FDA advisory committee voted 12 to 5 in favor of approval

# **Buprenorphine Diversion and Accidental Exposure: PRO 814 Study**

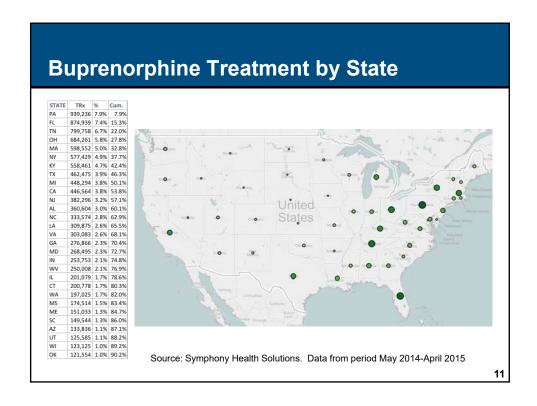
- Two cases of alleged theft of active sublingual buprenorphine and placebo tablets
- Hospitalization of subject's 2-year-old child accidentally exposed to sublingual buprenorphine
- Patients treated with Probuphine had fewer tablets available for diversion, misuse, abuse, and accidental exposure than patients treated with sublingual

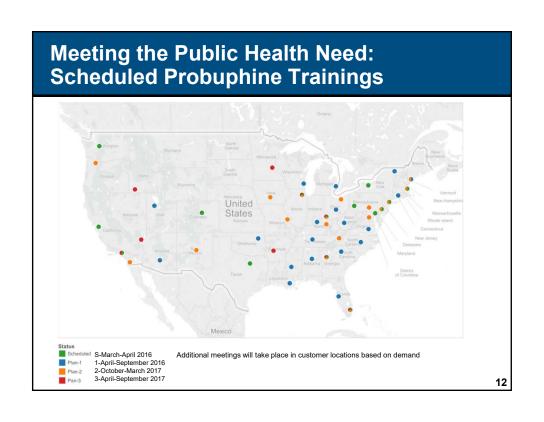


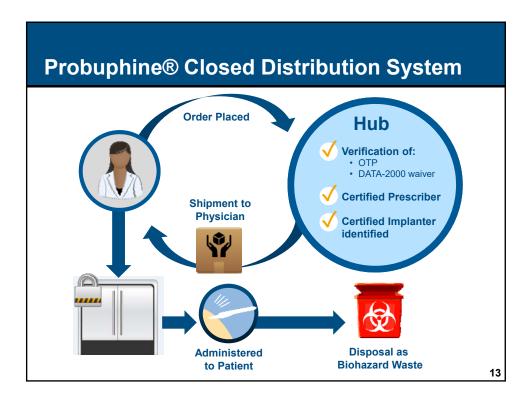
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#### **Probuphine Marketing Implementation Plan**

- Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies (REMS)
  - Educate and certify prescribers and implanters
    - Didactic
    - Live practicum
  - Inform patients of risks related to insertion, removal, and accidental overdose, misuse, and abuse
- Training sessions targeted to physician interest and states accounting for 90% of current buprenorphine prescriptions
- Closed Distribution System Engaging DEA
- Reimbursement Engaging CMS
  - ▶ Temporary G-Codes for both the medication and the procedures
  - ▶ Permanent codes using CPT procedure process







# Patient and Public Health Benefits of Implantables and Injectables

- Expected to reduce diversion, misuse, abuse, and accidental exposure
- Continuous medication delivery, lower risk of "treatment holidays" (return to illicit opioids)
- Reduced patient anxiety, lower risk of return to illicit opioids
- Improved convenience, greater compliance
- Reduced stigma
- Restored normalcy facilitates comprehensive and highquality treatment

### Secretary Burwell Has Authority to Create Exemptions from the Patient Limit

- "The Secretary may by regulation change such total number." 21 U.S.C. § 823(g)(2)(B)(iii)
- "(T)he Secretary shall issue regulations ... to address the following . . .
  - (II) Additional exemptions from the requirements of this paragraph and any regulations under this paragraph." 21 U.S.C. § 823(g)(2)(H)(ii)

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# **Exemption of Implantables and Injectables Consistent with DATA 2000 Policy**

- Proposed Exemption: patients treated with injectable or implantable buprenorphine administered by a qualifying practitioner directly to the patient
- Policy Rationale:
  - DATA 2000 was designed to enable community-based use of buprenorphine while limiting risk of diversion and abuse of products prescribed for dispensing through retail pharmacy and selfadministered in community
  - Implantables and injectables are not dispensed to patients for selfadministration
  - ▶ By their method of drug delivery, implantables and injectables offer resistance to diversion, misuse, abuse, accidental exposure

### **Health System Costs Related to Opioid Abuse**

- U.S. prescription opioid abuse costs = +/- \$55.7B (2007)
  - ▶ 46% workplace (e.g., lost productivity)
  - ▶ 45% healthcare (e.g., abuse treatment)
  - ▶ 9% criminal justice (Bimbaum, 2011)
- Substance use disorder treatment = \$24B (2009) (The Pew Charitable Trusts, 2015)
  - ▶ 69% from public sources (<u>The Pew Charitable Trusts, 2015</u>)
- Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) patients have greater co-morbidities (e.g., hepatitis, opioid poisoning) (McAdam-Marx, 2010)
- Annual Medicaid population cost of patients with opioid use disorder: \$23,556 versus \$8,436 in control population (McAdam-Marx, 2010)

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#### **Buprenorphine Treatment Expenditures**

- \$2 billion annual U.S. buprenorphine market
- Average wholesale monthly costs per patient:
  - ▶ \$443/mo for transmucosal buprenorphine
  - ▶ \$1,309/mo for monthly injectable naltrexone
- CMS reimbursement rates for non-buprenorphine implant insertion and removal procedures (for single implant)

Insertion: \$143.31Removal: \$162.66

▶ Removal and new insertion: \$226.07

 Medicaid, Medicare, VA & DOD pay for +/- 40% of all expenditures for buprenorphine for OUD (2015 IMS Plan Trak)

### **Exempting Injectables and Implantables: Benefits Exceed Costs**

- Greater access to treatment
  - More prescribers would be able to treat more patients under the existing patient limits
- Expanded treatment reduces societal costs of untreated addiction
  - ▶ Health care (e.g., overdoses, emergency room visits)
  - Productivity (e.g., disability, death, lost wages)
  - Criminal justice (e.g., drug-seeking crimes, recidivism)
- Overall treatment costs may increase, but per patient costs may not
  - Savings on other medications, office/pharmacy visits for prescription refills
  - Patients may dedicate saved time and effort to comprehensive treatment (e.g., psychosocial recovery) and other activities (e.g., work productivity)
- No added costs from diversion, misuse, abuse, and accidental exposure
- Provider education/certification adds annual/bi-annual costs to drug companies

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### Regulatory Flexibility Analysis: Small Businesses Will Benefit

- Three categories of small business are potentially affected
  - ▶ DATA-2000 waived addiction treatment providers
  - Pharmacies
  - Small businesses with employees who have OUD
- Addiction treatment providers may accept new patients without discharging stable patients
- Pharmacies will not likely be affected: decrease in oral buprenorphine dispensing is unlikely
- Small employers will benefit from reduction in untreated OUD among employees

#### **Summary and Conclusion**

#### The proposed rule should:

- Increase access to buprenorphine treatment
- Create a specific exemption for a new generation of innovative implantable and injectable opioid addiction treatments that are not dispensed to patients for self-administration

#### Promulgation of rule

- Braeburn will provide detailed written comments
- ▶ Public hearing could increase exposure
- Questions?
- Thank you

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