#### What is this medicine?

Naltrexone (nal-TREKS-one)

- Naltrexone 50mg is FDA approved to be used for opioid or alcohol dependence; however, at significantly lower doses, Low Dose Naltrexone (LDN) has many other uses.
- Low Dose Naltrexone may be used for things like itching, pain, and other symptoms in diseases involving autoimmune or inflammatory disorders.
- It has been proposed that naltrexone exerts analgesic, antioxidant, or anti-inflammatory effects.

**Compounded Drug Forms:** oral tablet, oral capsule, sublingual tablet, fast-burst sublingual tablet, topical cream, suspension, solution

### What should I tell my health care provider before I take this medicine?

- Allergy to naltrexone
- Taking opioid pain medications regularly
- Pregnant or breast feeding
- Have an upcoming procedure or surgery (discontinue naltrexone use for 2-5 days prior to your scheduled appointment)
- Have liver disease or dysfunction

### How should I use this medicine?

Follow the package directions provided by Belmar Pharmacy and by your prescriber. Your dosage is based on your medical condition and response to therapy.

Oral tablets may be taken with or without food; if it upsets your stomach take it with a small meal. Follow the dosing schedule provided carefully.

Sublingual tablets and fast-burst sublingual tablets should be placed under the tongue or between the cheek and gums and held in place until fully dissolved. Avoid swallowing saliva to ensure best absorption into the blood stream. Avoid eating or drinking 15 minutes before or after taking sublingual tablet.

Topical products can be applied to the inner arm, upper thigh, back of the knee, tops of the feet, and inner wrists. It is recomended to rotate sites to ensure even retention.

### What if I miss a dose?

- If you miss a dose take it as soon as possible.
- If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and continue with your regular dosing schedule.
- Do not take double the dose at once.

## What may interact with this medicine?

Opioid pain medications interact with naltrexone. Discuss with your doctor all of the medications you are taking to determine if this is the best therapy for you.

### What should I watch for while using this medicine?

Belmar Pharmacy recomends yearly checkups with your provider.

May also monitor liver function tests (baseline and periodic).

#### What side effects may I notice from receiving this medicine?

Possible side effects that may occur and may go away as your body gets used to the medication include:

- Vivid dreams
- Insomnia (trouble falling asleep or trouble staying asleep)
- Headache
- Nausea

· Constipation or diarrhea

Severe Side Effects: Contact your doctor immediately or seek medical attention if you experience:

- Severe dizziness
- · Severe headache
- Signs of a significant reaction like wheezing; chest tightness; fever; itching; bad cough; blue skin color; seizures; or swelling of face, lips, tongue, or throat are extremely rare but you should seek medical attention immediately.

# Where should I keep my medicine?

Store at room temperature between 59 and 86 degrees F, unless otherwise specified on the packaging.

#### Additional Information:

- Do not share this medication with others to whom it was not prescribed.
- Keep out of reach from children and pets.
- If an overdose is suspected contact your local poison control center at 1-800-222-1222 or go to the nearest emergency room.

If you have any questions concerning this or any of your medications, a pharmacist is available during normal business hours to answer your questions. You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

Consumer Information Use and Disclaimer: This information should not be used to decide whether or not to take this medication or any other medication. Only the healthcare provider has the knowledge and training to decide which medicines are right for a specific patient. This information does not endorse any medicine as safe, effective, or approved for treating any patient or health condition. This is only a brief summary of general information about this medicine. It does not include all information about the possible uses, directions, warnings, precautions, interactions, adverse effects, or risks that may apply to this medicine. For questions about the source of any of the information provided herein, pharmacists at Belmar Pharmacy are available. This information is not specific medical advice and does not replace information you receive from the healthcare provider. You must talk with the healthcare provider for complete information about the risks and benefits of this medicine.

Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to dispose of medications. There may be a drug take-back program in your area.



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