# MEDICATIONS FOR OPIOID

& ADDICTION

Medications for opioid overdose, withdrawal, and addiction are safe, effective, and save lives.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse supports research to develop new medicines and delivery systems to treat opioid use disorder and other substance use disorders, as well as other complications of substance use (including withdrawal and overdose), to help people choose treatments that are right for them.

Medications approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for opioid addiction, overdose, and withdrawal work in various ways.

### - Opioid Receptor Agonist

Medications attach to opioid receptors in the brain to block withdrawal symptoms and cravings.

## **−**G Opioid Receptor Partial Agonist

Medications attach to and partially activate opioid receptors in the brain to ease withdrawal symptoms and cravings.

#### -CI · Opioid Receptor Antagonist

Medications attach to and block activity of opioid receptors in the brain. Antagonist medications that treat substance use disorders do so by preventing euphoric effects (the high) of opioids and alcohol and by reducing cravings. Antagonist medications used to treat opioid overdoses do so by reversing dangerous drug effects like slowing or stopping breathing.

#### → Adrenergic Receptor Agonist

A medication that attaches to and activates adrenergic receptors in the brain and helps alleviate withdrawal symptoms.

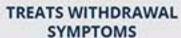
#### REDUCES OPIOID USE AND CRAVINGS













#### REVERSES OVERDOSE



