




QUICK GUIDE: MAT Use for Alcohol Use Disorder



	NALTREXONE	ACAMPROSATE	DISULFIRAM
COMMON BRANDS	Revia, Vivitrol	Campral	Antabuse
TYPE			
HOW IT WORKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medication that blocks the effects of alcohol and reduces cravings. • Offered as a daily pill or monthly injection. • Naltrexone is not a controlled substance and can be prescribed or administered in any health care or SUD setting, such as a doctor's office or clinic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medication to reduce cravings for patients who have already stopped drinking. It does not help with withdrawal symptoms but does reduce cravings. If relapse occurs, patients can continue taking the medication without needing to detox first. • Offered as a tablet taken three times a day. • Acamprosate is not a controlled substance and can be prescribed or administered in any health care or SUD setting, such as a doctor's office or clinic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medication that causes severe vomiting if someone drinks alcohol. • Offered as daily pill. • Disulfiram is not a controlled substance and can be prescribed or administered in any health care or SUD setting such as a doctor's office or clinic.
THINGS TO CONSIDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detoxification from alcohol is required before taking naltrexone. • Relapse risk increases if you forget or choose not to take pill form of the medication. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detoxification from alcohol is not required but is highly recommended before starting on acamprosate. • Relapse risk increases if patients forget or choose not to take medication. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detoxification from alcohol is required. • Relapse risk increases if you forget or choose not to take medication.

CONTINUED ON BACK

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CONTINUED FROM FRONT	NALTREXONE	ACAMPROSATE	DISULFIRAM
THINGS TO CONSIDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injection form of the medication lasts for about 30 days before it wears off. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common side effects include stomach pain, dizziness or dry mouth; more rarely patients may experience anxiety or depression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Side effects are not common but may include headache, drowsiness or rash. • Disulfiram can be a good option for compulsive drinking (everything is fine and then you have a strong urge to drink).
QUESTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have you detoxed from alcohol, or would you be willing to detox to take this medication? • Can you commit to taking this medication daily, or would a month-long injection be a better option? • Do you have any medical needs that would be affected by blocking the opioid receptors? For example, do you use opioids to reduce chronic pain? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you commit to taking this medication three times a day? • Do you feel that craving reduction alone is enough to help you stop drinking, or do you need something more? For example, disulfiram makes you vomit if you drink, and naltrexone takes away the pleasurable feeling of drinking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have you detoxed from alcohol, or would you be willing to detox to take this medication? • Can you commit to taking this pill daily? • Do you work in an industry with exposure to alcohol-based products (i.e., paint thinner, varnish, etc.) which could react with the medication? • Are you willing to run the risk of severe vomiting should you relapse?