Dear Patients Mind Inc. Community,

As the COVID-19 (coronavirus) crisis continues to evolve, BioDelivery Sciences International, Inc. (BDSI) remains committed to ensuring the safety of all chronic pain patients.

During this challenging time, you may be worried about being exposed to COVID-19 at your doctor's office or your ability to receive your chronic pain treatments.

BDSI is committed to helping you maintain access to your medications. If you are currently taking one of the following BDSI products **BELBUCA® (buprenorphine buccal film)** or **Symproic® (naldemedine)**, we have some important information for you below.

**BELBUCA® (buprenorphine buccal film)**

BELBUCA is used to manage pain severe enough to require daily around-the-clock, long-term treatment with an opioid, when other pain treatments such as non-opioid pain medicines or immediate-release opioid medicines do not treat your pain well enough or you cannot tolerate them.

BELBUCA is a Schedule III long acting opioid, which allows for:

- your physician to **phone-in**, **fax** or **electronically** send a BELBUCA prescription to your pharmacy
- up to 5 refills with each new BELBUCA prescription and may not require a monthly visit depending on your physician's office protocols

We are hopeful that with the unique flexibility of BELBUCA, a Schedule III medication, your healthcare provider can ensure you have access to your medication by having your physician phoning in your BELBUCA prescription during this challenging time.

*Below are links to additional resources for* BELBUCA *that may be beneficial to you.*

- BELBUCA® Co-pay Card: Eligible patients may pay as little as $0* for each prescription
- BELBUCA® FAQs: Frequently asked questions about BELBUCA
- BELBUCA® Patient Brochure: An easy guide for understanding and starting BELBUCA

**For full Prescribing Information, including Boxed Warning, visit www.belbuca.com.**

**Symproic® (naldemedine)**

Symproic® is used to treat constipation that is caused by prescription pain medicines called opioids, in adults with long-lasting (chronic) pain that is not caused by active cancer.

- With Symproic, new prescriptions and refills are available to be **phoned, faxed** or **electronically** sent to pharmacies from your doctor's office

*Below are links to additional resources for* Symproic® *that may be beneficial to you, your staff and your patients.*

- Symproic® Co-pay Card: Eligible patients may pay as little as $0* for each prescription
- Symproic® FAQs: Frequently asked questions about BELBUCA

**For full Prescribing Information and important safety information, visit www.symproic.com.**

Please know that BDSI is committed to steadfastly supporting you through this time of uncertainty.

If you have any questions, please contact BDSI at 1-800-469-0261.

Thank You,
BioDelivery Sciences International, Inc.

4131 ParkLake Avenue, Suite 225
Raleigh, North Carolina 27612 USA
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**BELBUCA APPROVED USE**

**BELBUCA (buprenorphine buccal film) is:**

- A strong prescription pain medicine that contains an opioid (narcotic) that is used to manage pain severe enough to require daily around-the-clock, long-term treatment with an opioid, when other pain treatments such as non-opioid pain medicines or immediate-release opioid medicines do not treat your pain well enough or you cannot tolerate them.
- A long-acting opioid pain medicine that can put you at risk for overdose and death. Even if you take your dose correctly as prescribed, you are at risk for opioid addiction, abuse, and misuse that can lead to death.
- Not for use to treat pain that is not around-the-clock.

**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION about BELBUCA®**

**WARNING: ADDICTION, ABUSE, AND MISUSE; RISK EVALUATION AND MITIGATION STRATEGY (REMS); LIFE-THREATENING RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION; ACCIDENTAL EXPOSURE; NEONATAL OPIOID WITHDRAWAL SYNDROME; and RISKS FROM CONCOMITANT USE WITH BENZODIAZEPINES AND OTHER CNS DEPRESSANTS**

**Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse**

**BELBUCA exposes patients and other users to the risks of opioid addiction, abuse, and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death. Assess each patient's risk prior to prescribing BELBUCA, and monitor regularly for these behaviors and conditions.**

**Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS)**

**To ensure that the benefits of opioid analgesics outweigh the risks of addiction, abuse, and misuse, the FDA has required a REMS for these products. Under the requirements of the REMS, drug companies with approved opioid analgesic products must make REMS-compliant education programs available to healthcare providers. Healthcare providers are strongly encouraged to**

- **complete a REMS-compliant education program,**
- **counsel patients and/or their caregivers, with every prescription, on safe use, serious risks, storage, and disposal of these products,**
- **emphasize to patients and their caregivers the importance of reading the Medication Guide every time it is provided by their pharmacist, and**
- **consider other tools to improve patient, household, and community safety.**

**Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression**

**Serious, life-threatening, or fatal respiratory depression may occur with use of BELBUCA. Monitor for respiratory depression, especially during initiation of BELBUCA or following a dose increase. Misuse or abuse of BELBUCA by chewing, swallowing, snorting, or injecting buprenorphine extracted from the buccal film will result in the uncontrolled delivery of buprenorphine and poses a significant risk of overdose and death.**

**Accidental Exposure**

**Accidental exposure to even one dose of BELBUCA, especially in children, can result in a fatal overdose of buprenorphine.**

**Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome**

**Prolonged use of BELBUCA during pregnancy can result in neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, which may be life-threatening if not recognized and treated. If prolonged opioid use is required in a pregnant woman, advise the**

**patient of the risk of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and ensure that appropriate treatment will be available.**

**Risks from Concomitant Use with Benzodiazepines Or Other CNS Depressants**

**Concomitant use of opioids with benzodiazepines or other central nervous system (CNS) depressants, including alcohol, may result in profound sedation, respiratory depression, coma, and death. Reserve concomitant prescribing for use in patients for whom alternative treatment options are inadequate; limit dosages and durations to the minimum required; and follow patients for signs and symptoms of respiratory depression and sedation.**

**Important information about BELBUCA:**

- **Get emergency help right away if you take too much BELBUCA (overdose).** When you first start taking BELBUCA, when your dose is changed, or if you take too much (overdose), serious or life-threatening breathing problems that can lead to death may occur.
- Taking BELBUCA with other opioid medicines, benzodiazepines, alcohol, or other central nervous system depressants (including street drugs) can cause severe drowsiness, decreased awareness, breathing problems, coma, and death.
- Never give anyone else your BELBUCA. They could die from taking it. Selling or giving away BELBUCA is against the law.
- Store BELBUCA securely, out of sight and reach of children, and in a location not accessible by others, including visitors to the home.

**Do not use BELBUCA if you have:**

- severe asthma, trouble breathing, or other lung problems.
- a bowel blockage or have narrowing of the stomach or intestines.

**Before applying BELBUCA, tell your healthcare provider if you have a history of:**

- head injury, seizures
- heart rhythm problems (long QT syndrome)
- liver, kidney, thyroid problems
- pancreas or gallbladder problems
- problems urinating
- abuse of street or prescription drugs, alcohol addiction, or mental health problems

**Tell your healthcare provider if you are:**

- **pregnant or planning to become pregnant.** Prolonged use of BELBUCA during pregnancy can cause withdrawal symptoms in your newborn baby that could be life-threatening if not recognized and treated.
- **breastfeeding.** Not recommended during treatment with BELBUCA. It may harm your baby.
- taking prescription or over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, or herbal supplements. Taking BELBUCA with certain other medicines can cause serious side effects and could lead to death.

**When taking BELBUCA:**

- Do not change your dose. Apply BELBUCA exactly as prescribed by your healthcare provider. Use the lowest effective dose possible for the shortest time needed.
- See the detailed Instructions for Use for information about how to apply BELBUCA.
- Do not apply BELBUCA if the package seal is broken or the film is cut, damaged, or changed in any way.
- After the film has adhered to your cheek, avoid eating or drinking until the film has completely

dissolved, usually within 30 minutes.
- Avoid touching or moving the buccal film with your tongue or fingers.
- **Do not chew, swallow, snort or inject BELBUCA. This will result in uncontrolled delivery of buprenorphine and may cause you to overdose and die.**
- **Call your healthcare provider if the dose you are using does not control your pain.**
- **Do not stop using BELBUCA without talking to your healthcare provider.**
- Dispose of expired, unwanted, or unused BELBUCA by removing the BELBUCA film from the foil packaging, and promptly flushing down the toilet (if a drug takeback option is not readily available). Visit www.fda.gov/drugdisposal for additional information on disposal of unused medicines.

**While using BELBUCA DO NOT:**

- Drive or operate heavy machinery, until you know how BELBUCA affects you. BELBUCA can make you sleepy, dizzy, or lightheaded.
- Drink alcohol or use prescription or over-the-counter medicines containing alcohol. Using products containing alcohol during treatment with BELBUCA may cause you to overdose and die.

**The possible side effects of BELBUCA are:**

- nausea, constipation, headache, vomiting, dizziness, and sleepiness. Call your healthcare provider if you have any of these symptoms and they are severe.

**Get emergency medical help if you have:**

- trouble breathing, shortness of breath, fast heartbeat, chest pain, swelling of your face, tongue or throat, extreme drowsiness, light-headedness when changing positions, feeling faint, agitation, high body temperature, trouble walking, stiff muscles, or mental changes such as confusion.

These are not all the possible side effects of BELBUCA. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088. **For more information go to dailymed.nlm.nih.gov**

Manufactured by: BioDelivery Sciences International, Inc.

**Please see full Prescribing Information, including Boxed Warning and Medication Guide, or speak to your healthcare provider if you have questions about BELBUCA.**

**MEDICATION GUIDE**

**SYMPROIC® (sim proe' ik)**

(naldemedine) tablets, for oral use

**What is the most important information I should know about SYMPROIC?**

**SYMPROIC may cause serious side effects, including:**

- **Tear in your stomach or intestinal wall (perforation).** Stomach pain that is severe can be a sign of a serious medical condition. If you get stomach pain that does not go away, stop taking SYMPROIC and get emergency medical help right away.
- **Opioid withdrawal.** You may have symptoms of opioid withdrawal during treatment with SYMPROIC including sweating, chills, tearing, warm or hot feeling to your face (flush), sneezing, fever, feeling cold, abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any of these symptoms.

**What is SYMPROIC?**

SYMPROIC is a prescription medicine used to treat constipation that is caused by prescription pain medicines called opioids, in adults with long-lasting (chronic) pain that is not caused by active cancer.

It is not known if SYMPROIC is safe and effective in children.

**Do not take SYMPROIC if you:**

- have a bowel blockage (intestinal obstruction) or have a history of bowel blockage.
- are allergic to SYMPROIC or any of the ingredients in SYMPROIC. See the end of this Medication Guide for a complete list of ingredients in SYMPROIC. Tell your healthcare provider or pharmacist before you start or stop any medicines during treatment with SYMPROIC.

**Before you take SYMPROIC, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:**

- have any stomach or bowel (intestines) problems, including stomach ulcer, Crohn's disease, diverticulitis, cancer of the stomach or bowel, or Ogilvie's syndrome.
- have liver problems.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. Taking SYMPROIC during pregnancy may cause opioid withdrawal symptoms in your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you become pregnant during treatment with SYMPROIC.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if SYMPROIC passes into your breast milk. You should not breastfeed during treatment with SYMPROIC and for 3 days after your last dose. Taking SYMPROIC while you are breastfeeding may cause opioid withdrawal symptoms in your baby. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will take SYMPROIC or breastfeed. You should not do both.

**Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take**, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Other medicines may affect the way SYMPROIC works.

**How should I take SYMPROIC?**

- Take SYMPROIC exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it.
- Take your prescribed dose of SYMPROIC 1 time each day.

- SYMPROIC can be taken with or without food.
- SYMPROIC has been shown to be effective in people who have taken opioid pain medicines for at least 4 weeks.
- Tell your healthcare provider if you stop taking your opioid pain medicine. If you stop taking your opioid pain medicine, you should also stop taking SYMPROIC.

**What are the possible side effects of SYMPROIC?**

See **"What is the most important information I should know about SYMPROIC?"**

**The most common side effects of SYMPROIC include** stomach (abdomen) pain, diarrhea, nausea and vomiting (gastroenteritis).

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away. These are not all the possible side effects of SYMPROIC. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

**How should I store SYMPROIC?**

- Store SYMPROIC at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).
- Keep SYMPROIC in the bottle that it comes in.

**Keep SYMPROIC and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

**General information about the safe and effective use of SYMPROIC.**

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those in a Medication Guide. Do not take SYMPROIC for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give SYMPROIC to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about SYMPROIC that is written for health professionals.

**What are the ingredients in SYMPROIC?**

**Active Ingredient:** naldemedine tosylate

**Inactive ingredients:** D-mannitol, croscarmellose sodium, magnesium stearate, hypromellose, talc, and yellow ferric oxide.

Manufactured for: BioDelivery Sciences International, Inc. Raleigh, NC 27612


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