



The Olympia Bupe Clinic (OBC)

Medication: Buprenorphine & Pregnancy

Important information to know Buprenorphine if you are pregnant:

Is bupe safe in pregnancy?

In general, yes. While the studies on bupe in pregnancy are limited, in most cases it is safer for both baby and mom to remain on bupe.

How do I start bupe if I'm pregnant?

When pregnant, it is important to avoid precipitated withdrawal as this could harm the baby. We usually recommend microdose or low dose start methods.

Do I take Suboxone or Subutex?

Subutex is preferred over Suboxone, because it does not have naloxone and exposes the baby to fewer medications.

Will my bupe dose change with pregnancy?

Due to metabolic changes during pregnancy, it is common to have to increase the frequency of bupe dosing.

How will bupe affect pain control?

You can continue on bupe through your delivery. Epidural/spinal blocks can still be used. After delivery, ibuprofen and tylenol are often used, and limited opioids are sometimes given in addition.

Will my baby have withdrawal?

Some, but not all, babies have withdrawal from opioids or bupe. This is treated in the hospital. Higher bupe doses do not seem to have a higher risk of withdrawal. If this sounds like something you are interested in, let us know!