

Questions Asked During the Live Webinar Broadcast on 10/24/13

Q: You didn't address the Sinclair method of naltrexone use. Why not?

A: I discussed the philosophy behind the Sinclair method, but did not list it by name.

Q: When you say "treatment," are you referring to inpatient treatment or outpatient therapy or all types of treatment?

A: All types of treatment.

Q: What is a J code?

A: A J code is a HCPCS drug code and it is used to identify injectable drugs. The injections can be given intravenously, subcutaneously or intramuscularly.

Q: What are some side effects that a patient can have from taking Antabuse?

A: Please refer to the PowerPoint slide deck where it outlines the side effects from the medication itself and the "disulfiram-alcohol" reaction that can result if the individual consumes alcohol: <http://naadac.org/medication-assisted-treatment>

Q: Describe dopamine in greater detail.

Dopamine is a neurotransmitter that regulates motivation and pleasure. Most addictive psychoactive chemicals increase dopamine, as do eating, gambling and sex.

Q: Can you talk about these medications for someone who is pregnant or unknowingly becomes pregnant while taking these medications?

A: All four medications approved by the FDA for alcohol dependence are designated Pregnancy Category C by the FDA. There are no adequate and controlled study data in human pregnancy. These medications are only recommended for use during pregnancy when benefit outweighs risk.

Q: Does Medicaid and Medicare cover these medications?

A: Yes

Q: Can you mix and match the various medications?

A: Yes, there are no contraindications for combining any of these four medications together.

Q: Are any of these medications approved for adolescents?

A: None of the medications discussed in this webinar are FDA-approved for adolescents. This is due to the fact that there are no clinical trials involving adolescents to test its safety. Use with this population is not forbidden, just considered "off-label" use.