



Corporate Response to Recent Media Articles About Alkermes and VIVITROL®

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Alkermes is disappointed with some of the recent media coverage about our company and VIVITROL® (naltrexone for extended-release injectable suspension), an FDA-approved product for the prevention of relapse to opioid dependence, following opioid detoxification. The opioid epidemic is the public health crisis of our time, and the number of Americans impacted by this chronic disease is growing at a devastating rate. Unfortunately, the vast majority of people suffering from opioid dependence are not receiving treatment for their disease. Alkermes is committed to helping address this serious disease with VIVITROL.

VIVITROL is a once-monthly injection of an opioid receptor *antagonist* called naltrexone. As an antagonist, it blocks opioid receptors in the brain. The FDA initially approved VIVITROL in 2006 for the treatment of alcohol dependence in patients who are able to abstain from alcohol in an outpatient setting prior to initiation of treatment. In 2010, the FDA further approved VIVITROL for the prevention of relapse to opioid dependence, following opioid detoxification. VIVITROL is indicated for use as part of a comprehensive management program that includes psychosocial support, such as counseling. You can read the label, which contains important safety information about the product, [here](#). The FDA approved VIVITROL following a demonstration of safety and efficacy in clinical studies for each of its two indications. To date, more than 180 scientific articles have been published about VIVITROL. And since its approval, tens of thousands of patients have been treated with VIVITROL.

Alkermes believes that patients battling opioid dependence need access to all FDA-approved medications and that each medication has an important role to play within the treatment paradigm. For our part, we educate a variety of stakeholders involved in the treatment of opioid dependence about VIVITROL. These include healthcare professionals with patients in treatment facilities and in criminal justice settings and, in the context of criminal justice programs, other members of criminal justice treatment teams such as judges, sheriffs and other criminal justice professionals. In many cases, members of criminal justice treatment teams will reach out to us to learn more about VIVITROL as a potential treatment option. VIVITROL requires a prescription from a licensed prescriber and is administered by a healthcare professional. While judges, sheriffs and other criminal justice professionals play a supportive role in treatment of opioid dependence, they do not prescribe VIVITROL. This is a decision that is best left to the licensed prescriber based on a clinical assessment as to what is best for the patient. It is critical that patients work with their healthcare providers to determine the right treatment path to meet their individual needs.

We believe that the entire addiction community should be focused on how we can collectively mobilize, together, to attack this disease and ensure that all patients have access to all treatment options. Alkermes takes great pride in the work we do with physicians, public health officials and policy makers to expand their knowledge, understanding of clinical data, and access to VIVITROL. Our efforts are patient-focused, consistent and transparent, and we will continue this important work as we address this public health crisis.