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## Parent Information About Subutex Treatment during Pregnancy

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### Is it ok to take Subutex during my pregnancy?

- Yes, Subutex is safe to use during pregnancy
- It is safer to be on Subutex, than it is to withdraw from opiates during pregnancy
- If you have withdrawal during pregnancy, the baby will have withdrawal
  - This is very dangerous for your baby
- Subutex stops you and your baby from withdrawal, and can stop your cravings to use opiates

### What happens when my baby is born?

- Babies get used to Subutex during pregnancy
- After birth, when the Subutex is gone, the baby's body can get very nervous – also called withdrawal
- 50% of babies need treatment with medication to comfort them during withdrawal
  - Being on a higher dose of Subutex, does not mean that your baby will have a higher chance of needing medication. You should be on the dose that is right for you

### What will happen in the hospital?

- Your baby will be observed for withdrawal needing treatment for at least 5 days
- During this time, the baby should be kept quiet, held, and the room that the baby is in should be quiet (no TV, few visitors) and have the least amount of light as possible
- These things will decrease the need for medications to treat withdrawal
- We will measure the amount of withdrawal in the baby using a newborn withdrawal check list about every 4 hours
- We encourage you to breastfeed if you want, as long as no street drugs are in your system, including marijuana
  - The amount of Subutex in breast milk is small and will not harm your baby
- If your baby needs medication for withdrawal they may have to stay for several weeks
- When your baby needs medication it will allow your baby to be as healthy and happy as any other baby

### Who can I contact if I have more questions?

- You can talk with your Prenatal Provider or Nursing Staff in the Newborn Nursery