The Adventures of Methadone Man and Buprenorphine Babe

Stopping HIV in its Tracks!!
SPACE. A LONE SIGNAL TRAVELS DEEP INTO THE GALAXY...

... UNTIL IT REACHES THE HOME PLANET OF METHADONE MAN AND BUPRENORPHINE BABE!

"UNAIDS estimates that nearly one third of new HIV infections outside Africa are among injection drug users."

BUMBLING BUPERS, METHADONE MAN!

WE BETTER GET DOWN THERE! THEY NEED OUR HELP!

LET'S GO!!
In the blink of an eye, our heroes dash through space to help those in need.
I'm glad to see we didn't travel all that way for nothing!

Methadone saved my life.

Methadone stops HIV in its tracks.

Access to methadone and buprenorphine is a human right!!

Millions are waiting for methadone.

Buprenorphine saved my husband.

These people have the right idea!!
METHADONE MAN!
BUPRENORPHINE BABE!

GREETINGS
PEOPLE OF EARTH!

METHADONE AND
BUPRENORPHINE ARE LIFE
SAVING MEDICINES.

WE CAN STOP HIV IN
ITS TRACKS!

TELL US
YOUR PLAN!

CLEAN NEEDLES AND ACCESS TO
METHADONE AND BUPE MEAN
FEWER HIV INFECTIONS.
Where these medicines are not used, drug users continue to get HIV at alarming rates.

Yet, many government leaders don’t understand that this is a medical treatment.

It doesn’t take an intergalactic rocket scientist to see these medicines reduce the use of street drugs, slash overdose rates, and cut criminal activity.

Methadone and buprenorphine are some of the best tools the medical profession has for helping people to stop injecting drugs and fight HIV and AIDS.

Talk about the best of both worlds!
MILLIONS ARE WAITING!
HEALTH CARE IS A HUMAN RIGHT!
MILLIONS ARE WAITING!

Many Earth years of research show that methadone and buprenorphine work!

But getting access to treatment is a global problem!

Millions of people do not have these life-saving medicines because of restrictive policies!

If you think it’s wrong to prevent drug users from getting help, then it’s time to act!
IN RUSSIA, THE HIV EPIDEMIC HAS SPREAD EXPLOSIVELY AMONG INJECTION DRUG USERS.

METHADONE AND BUPRENORPHINE ARE ILLEGAL HERE DESPITE OVERWHELMING SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE THAT SHOWS THEY ARE EFFECTIVE!
Other nations allow methadone and buprenorphine, but only for few people, and you can linger on waiting lists for years.

Some programs require you to fail at quitting drug use without medicine at least three times before giving you treatment!

In Vietnam, less than half of one percent of injection drug users have access to these programs.

Even though they account for 65% of HIV infections.
MILLIONS ARE WAITING!
IN POLAND, ONLY 1,000 PEOPLE ARE ALLOWED TO RECEIVE METHADONE TREATMENT!

OTHER COUNTRIES IMPOSE REGULATIONS THAT MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR DRUG USERS TO GET THESE MEDICINES.
Ukraine won’t make treatment available in maternity hospitals or TB clinics.

Women have to get up after giving birth and drag themselves across town to get medicine.

Many states in the U.S. have few doctors who prescribe methadone or buprenorphine.

People in rural areas need to drive long distances to get treated, and most people in prisons are denied access.
Many governments imprison drug users rather than provide them with treatment, and since prison management rarely allows inmates to get clean needles, HIV spreads fast!

It's a perfect environment for spreading HIV among prisoners and back into the general population.

Indeed, this is actually a global problem!
“SIXTY-FIVE COUNTRIES NOW OFFER THE MEDICATIONS BUPRENORPHINE AND METHADONE TO TREAT OPIATE ADDICTION. DEEMED “ESSENTIAL MEDICINES” BY THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, THEY ARE RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME, UNAIDS, AND MULTIPLE NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL ORGANIZATIONS TO REDUCE DRUG INJECTION AND DRUG-RELATED CRIME, AND TO IMPROVE PUBLIC ORDER, FAMILY SATISFACTION, RETURN TO EMPLOYMENT, AND ADHERENCE TO HIV TREATMENT.

UNFORTUNATELY, EVEN WHEN MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT PROGRAMS WITH METHADONE OR BUPRENORPHINE ARE AVAILABLE, THEY FAIL TO REACH MANY OF THOSE WHO COULD BENEFIT.

ONE REASON FOR THIS IS THE MANY REQUIREMENTS—INCLUDING ADMISSION RESTRICTIONS, LIMITED HOURS OF OPERATION, WAITING LISTS, AND CUMBERSOME PRESCRIPTION AND STORAGE REQUIREMENTS — THAT MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR PATIENTS TO ENTER TREATMENT.”

- OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE
LOWER THE THRESHOLD: MODELS OF ACCESSIBLE METHADONE AND BUPRENORPHINE TREATMENT
GLOBALLY, ONLY 8% OF INJECTION DRUG USERS RECEIVE METHADONE OR BUPRENORPHINE TREATMENT.
“EIGHTY-EIGHT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WHERE INJECTING DRUG USE HAS BEEN REPORTED HAVE NO OPIOID SUBSTITUTION THERAPY AT ALL!”

- INTERNATIONAL HARM REDUCTION ASSOCIATION

THE GLOBAL STATE OF HARM REDUCTION 2010
IN GEORGIA...

IN INDONESIA...
AND IN KYRGYZSTAN,

PEOPLE ARE OFTEN DISCOURAGED FROM TREATMENT PROGRAMS BECAUSE OF LOOOOOONG WAITING LISTS.
Methadone is a long-acting, synthetic drug used for the treatment of opioid (heroin, oxycontin, etc.) dependency. Methadone is dispensed orally as a liquid, powder or tablets. Doses must be individually determined.

The Benefits of Methadone Maintenance Treatment

Methadone reduces dependency on heroin and other opiates, thereby reducing overdose. It also reduces HIV infection rates by limiting the use and sharing of contaminated syringes.

Opioid users who receive methadone treatment are healthier than those who do not. They live longer, spend less time in the hospital, commit fewer crimes and have better relationships with their families.
METHADONE HELPS DRUG USERS STABILIZE THEIR LIVES, AND IT HELPS THOSE WHO ARE HIV-POSITIVE TO STAY ON AIDS TREATMENTS.

METHADONE STOPS HIV IN ITS TRACKS!
**What is Buprenorphine?**

Buprenorphine is a safe and effective medication prescribed for opioid addiction. It relieves withdrawal, reduces craving and blocks heroin in ways similar to Methadone. Doses are taken orally in tablet form and are customized for each patient.

**The Benefits of Buprenorphine Maintenance Treatment**

Buprenorphine reduces dependency on heroin and other opiates. It also reduces HIV infection rates by limiting the use and sharing of contaminated syringes.

Patients who take buprenorphine lead longer, healthier lives than those not receiving treatment.
BUPRENORPHINE EACH DAY
KEEPS INJECTION AWAY!

AND, TOGETHER,
WE SAVE LIVES!!!
But we need your help!

Despite scientific evidence proving the benefits of methadone and buprenorphine, millions of people still can’t get them.

Organize support in your community by petitioning your local government!

What can we do to help?

Talk to policymakers at events and meetings.

Educate local officials and your community.
RAISE AWARENESS AND TAKE ACTION!

MILLIONS ARE WAITING ON YOU!!!
RESOURCES

DRUG POLICY ALLIANCE
WWW.DRUGPOLICY.ORG

INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF ADDICTION TREATMENT
WWW.OPIATEADDITIONRX.INFO

INTERNATIONAL DRUG POLICY CONSORTIUM
WWW.IDPC.NET

INTERNATIONAL HARM REDUCTION ASSOCIATION
WWW.IHRA.NET

INPUD - THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF PEOPLE
WHO USE DRUGS
WWW.INPUD.NET

INTERNATIONAL NURSING HARM REDUCTION NETWORK
WWW.INHRN.NET

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE
WWWINTERNATIONAL.DRUGABUSE.GOV/COLLABORATION/GUIDE METHADONE/INTRO.HTML

OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE
WWW.SOROS.ORG/HARM-REDUCTION
RELEASE
WWW.RELEASE.ORG.UK

UNAIDS
WWW.UNAIDS.ORG

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME
WWW.UNODC.ORG

WOMEN’S HARM REDUCTION INTERNATIONAL NETWORK
WWW.TALKINGDRUGS.ORG/WOMENS-HARM-REDUCTION-GROUP

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WWW.WHO.INT

YOUTH RISE
WWW.YOUTHRISE.ORG
HARM REDUCTION NETWORKS

Asian Harm Reduction Network
www.ahrn.net

Canadian Harm Reduction Network
www.canadianharmreduction.com

Caribbean Harm Reduction Coalition
www.caribbeanharmreductioncoalition.htmlplanet.com

Colectivo por una política integral hacia las drogas
www.cupihd.org

Eurasian Harm Reduction Network
www.harm-reduction.org

European Harm Reduction Network
www.eurohrn.eu

Harm Reduction Coalition
www.harmreduction.org

Indonesian Harm Reduction Network
www.jangkar.org

Intercambios Asociación Civil
www.intercambios.org.ar

Middle East and North African Harm Reduction Association
www.menahra.org

Russian Harm Reduction Network
www.harmreduction.ru

Sub-Saharan Africa Harm Reduction Network
www.sahrn.net