

NIDA Case Study: ROI for Buprenorphine

Return on Investment

~69,500%
Market ROI

~1,548,000%
Public Health ROI

Lives Saved

- Buprenorphine reduces risk of death by 50% and reduces mortality rate from 2-3% to 1%
- Buprenorphine conservatively prevents 90,000 - 180,000 premature deaths
- The “Value Statistical Life” multiplier of \$10 million applied to assess regulatory and healthcare impacts

**\$900 billion
to \$1.8 trillion**

**Economic value
of lives saved
by buprenorphine**

NIDA invested an estimated \$62 million in the development of buprenorphine, a ground-breaking medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD)

Reach and Impact

12-14 million unique patients are estimated to have been treated with buprenorphine since 2002, representing >15 million annual prescriptions

Public Health Return

The estimated savings to society in healthcare, productivity, and criminal justice costs are \$960 billion

Market Return

Average cost of treatment per patient is \$3600
(\$400 per treatment x 9 months)

This produces a cumulative market value = \$43.2 billion

Market Innovation

- Buprenorphine created a new pharmaceutical market and catalyzed industry innovation
- Buprenorphine represents the largest share of MOUDs on the market and fostered market competition
 - Suboxone Film Strip (2009) - sublingual film strip
 - Zubsolv (2013) - sublingual tablet
 - Probuphine (2016) - implantable buprenorphine
 - Sublocade (2017) - long-acting depot injectable
 - Brixadi (2023) - long-acting depot injectable

