

## Michael "The Situation" Sorrentino's Story

With a hit reality TV show, a successful business and a loving family, Michael "The Situation" Sorrentino seemed to have it all. But for some time, he battled an affliction that threatened to destroy the life he had worked so hard to achieve.

As he was rising to fame in 2010, Michael injured his lower neck and back and was prescribed opioid prescription painkillers to help ease the pain. Over time, Michael's opioid use escalated to the point where he needed painkillers just to get through each day. Eventually, Michael, who prides himself on being fit and healthy, not only desperately craved the medication, but began to lose interest in the things he enjoyed most: his family and friends, his health and his skyrocketing career.

Michael decided he could no longer go through the rollercoaster of addiction any longer when he was traveling abroad desperate to find prescription painkillers and could not even accomplish the simple task of getting dressed for a one-hour event with his family. Surrounded by loved ones with looks of disappointment, distress and heartache, he gathered the strength to admit he had lost control of his life. He no longer recognized the lifestyle he was leading or the person he had become, as the loving, caring person he had always been was now cold, irritable and short tempered. In that moment, Michael realized the severity of his dependence and that the addiction was bigger than him, and decided to reset his reality.

Through the right treatment approach for him and support of his family, he was able to do just that. Michael has found a daily medication that he took in rehab and now takes daily by prescription from his doctor called SUBOXONE® Film (buprenorphine and naloxone sublingual film [CIII]) along with counseling has worked best for him.

Through his role as a Reset Reality ambassador, Michael hopes to inspire others who are struggling with opioid dependence to seek the help they need and reclaim their life. He wants others to know that no matter what the situation, you are not alone and there is always hope for a healthy and positive recovery.

#### Indication

SUBOXONE® (buprenorphine and naloxone) Sublingual Film is indicated for maintenance treatment of opioid dependence as part of a complete treatment plan to include counseling and psychosocial support.

Treatment should be initiated under the direction of physicians qualified under the Drug Addiction Treatment Act.

### **Important Safety Information**

SUBOXONE® (buprenorphine and naloxone) Sublingual Film should not be used by patients hypersensitive to buprenorphine or naloxone, as serious adverse reactions, including anaphylactic shock, have been reported.





## Important Safety Information (cont'd)

SUBOXONE (buprenorphine and naloxone) Sublingual Film can be abused in a manner similar to other opioids, legal or illicit. Clinical monitoring appropriate to the patient's level of stability is essential.

Chronic use of buprenorphine can cause physical dependence. A sudden or rapid decrease in dose may result in an opioid withdrawal syndrome that is typically milder than seen with full agonists and may be delayed in onset.

SUBOXONE Sublingual Film can cause serious life-threatening respiratory depression and death, particularly when taken by the intravenous (IV) route in combination with benzodiazepines or other central nervous system (CNS) depressants (ie, sedatives, tranquilizers, or alcohol). It is extremely dangerous to self-administer nonprescribed benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants while taking SUBOXONE Sublingual Film. Dose reduction of CNS depressants, SUBOXONE Sublingual Film, or both when both are being taken should be considered.

Liver function should be monitored before and during treatment.

Death has been reported in nontolerant, nondependent individuals, especially in the presence of CNS depressants.

Children who take SUBOXONE Sublingual Film can have severe, possibly fatal, respiratory depression. Emergency medical care is critical. Keep SUBOXONE Sublingual Film out of the sight and reach of children.

Intravenous misuse or taking SUBOXONE Sublingual Film before the effects of full-agonist opioids (eg, heroin, hydrocodone, methadone, morphine, oxycodone) have subsided is highly likely to cause opioid withdrawal symptoms.

Neonatal withdrawal has been reported.

Use of SUBOXONE Sublingual Film in pregnant women or during breast-feeding should only be considered if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk.

Caution should be exercised when driving vehicles or operating hazardous machinery, especially during dose adjustment.

Adverse events commonly observed with the sublingual administration of SUBOXONE Sublingual Film are oral hypoesthesia, glossodynia, oral mucosal erythema, headache, nausea, vomiting, hyperhidrosis, constipation, signs and symptoms of withdrawal, insomnia, pain, and peripheral edema.

Cytolytic hepatitis, jaundice, and allergic reactions, including anaphylactic shock, have been reported.

This is not a complete list of potential adverse events associated with SUBOXONE Sublingual Film. Please see full Prescribing Information for a complete list at <a href="https://www.suboxone.com/pdfs/SuboxonePI.pdf">www.suboxone.com/pdfs/SuboxonePI.pdf</a>.





# **Important Safety Information (cont'd)**

To report an adverse event associated with taking SUBOXONE (buprenorphine and naloxone) Sublingual Film, pleasecall 1-877-782-6966. You are encouraged to report adverse events of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit <a href="https://www.fda.gov/medwatch">www.fda.gov/medwatch</a> or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

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