

Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services

Drug Information Sheet: **bupropion (Wellbutrin)**

Bupropion (Wellbutrin, Budeprion) is an antidepressant medication used in the treatment of depression, and can improve overall mood, ability to concentrate, sleep and eating patterns, and physical activity.

Estimates are that eight or nine out of every ten patients with depression can be helped by currently available antidepressant medications.

All classes of antidepressants are effective, although some may be better than others for certain patients. That is, one class of medication may work particularly well for one person, while another individual may have more success with a medication from a different class.

Like any medication, bupropion can cause some side effects:

Common

agitation
anxiety
insomnia
rapid heart rate
headache

Less Common

hallucinations
blurred vision
difficulty concentrating

Rare

fainting
seizures
fever or chills
muscle pain
rash

Antidepressant medications work gradually, and may take up to several weeks to reach their full effect. Don't lose patience; it will take time before you will feel better.

Remember, these medications must be taken regularly to have their full beneficial effect.