

# Did you know?

## MEDICATIONS FOR ALCOHOL USE DISORDER:

### WORK FOR ALMOST EVERYONE

One of several medications such as Naltrexone or Topiramate can be prescribed to reduce cravings and withdrawal symptoms.

### CAN BE TAKEN TEMPORARILY

Medications are usually prescribed for at least six months, depending on a person's individual care plan. If required, it is safe to take medications for a longer period of time.

### MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER

Historically, a medication called disulfiram (antabuse) was used to treat AUD but it worked by making people feel sick if they drank. It is no longer recommended, except in rare circumstances.<sup>1</sup>

### COMPLEMENT OTHER SUPPORTS

Medications are taken to ease cravings and withdrawal symptoms so that the work of healing and recovery can take place through counselling, family or traditional and cultural supports.

### ARE SELECTED FOR INDIVIDUALS

The right AUD medication for an individual is prescribed by a family doctor or nurse practitioner based on personal, family and consumption history.

### ARE EFFECTIVE FOR RELAPSE

The chance of relapse is much lower when AUD medications are used. If it does occur, medications that initially worked can be relied on again to help.

**FOR MORE INFO: TALK TO YOUR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER OR VISIT**

Canadian Alcohol Use Disorder Society



**WWW.CAUDS.ORG**

*The Canadian Alcohol Use Disorder Society is a non-profit organization that aims to increase awareness of treatment options and promote a more compassionate understanding of Alcohol Use Disorder. We are not funded by pharmaceutical or related enterprise.*