

THE BIOLOGY OF RECOVERY

Recovery is a process that happens over time. The help you need to get your life back is treatment, not "will power." Let's take a quick look at the biology of recovery.

TREATMENT



You enter treatment...

When you enter treatment, you have almost no naturally occurring endorphins and a significantly decreased number of opioid receptors. You have anxiety, agitation, insomnia, diarrhea, cramping, nausea, and vomiting.

RELIEF



You experience relief...

Medication-assisted treatment is a physician-controlled treatment medication that bonds to your remaining opioid receptors to remove withdrawal symptoms. This will help threatening behaviors, illegal drug use, wasted money, and time. Now you can begin biological, psychological, and social recovery.

HEALING



Scientific studies show...

Your brain responds to treatment over a 6-12 month period by rebuilding opioid receptors and restarting its production of natural endorphins. The result of this healing process is that you begin to feel "normal" again.

TAPERING



Progress in recovery...

Once your brain has repaired itself and you have engaged in counseling services to learn important recovery skills and relapse prevention techniques, your medication can be slowly reduced through a physician-guided tapering process.

RECOVERY



Getting your life back...

You have now experienced 6-12 months of brain repair and learned practical skills to strengthen recovery and improve your life, such as finding a job, going to school, and repairing relationships. You are now ready to leave treatment for long-term recovery without medication.