CLAIMS

1. Use of buprenorphine in the form of a free base or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for treating opioid use disorder in a human in need thereof, wherein the medicament comprises:

(a) a first composition comprising from about 280 mg to about 320 mg of buprenorphine in the form of a free base or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to be administered to the human once per month by injection for one month, two months, or three months; and

(b) a second composition comprising from about 80 mg to about 120 mg of buprenorphine in the form of a free base or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to be administered thereafter to the human once per month by injection beginning with the second month, third month, or fourth month of administration, respectively, and for each month thereafter.

2. The use of Claim 1, wherein the first composition is to be administered to the human once per month for one month, and the second composition is to be administered to the human once per month beginning with the second month.

3. The use of Claim 1, wherein the first composition is to be administered to the human once per month for two months, and the second composition is to be administered to the human once per month beginning with the third month.

4. The use of Claim 1, wherein the first composition is to be administered to the human once per month for three months, and the second composition is to be administered to the human once per month beginning with the fourth month.

5. The use of Claim 1, wherein the first composition comprises about 300 mg buprenorphine in the form of the free base or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and the second composition comprises about 100 mg buprenorphine in the form of the fee base or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. The use of claim 1, wherein the buprenorphine is in the form of a free base.

7. The use of claim 1, wherein the medicament produces an average buprenorphine concentration of at least 2 ng/mL.

8. The use of claim 1, wherein the medicament produces an average buprenorphine concentration of about 2 ng/mL to about 5 ng/mL.

9. The use of claim 1, wherein the medicament produces a μ-opioid receptor occupancy (as measured by a maximum effect model of Equation 1) of at least 70%.

10. The use of claim 1, wherein the medicament produces a μ-opioid receptor occupancy (as measured by a maximum effect model of Equation 1) of greater than 60% to about 90%.

11. The use of claim 1, wherein the injection is a subcutaneous injection.

12. The use of claim 1, wherein the medicament for treating opioid use disorder suppresses opioid withdrawal signs and symptoms.

13. The use of claim 1, wherein the first composition and the second composition each comprise:

(i) about 18 wt% of buprenorphine free base;

(ii) about 32 wt% of a 50:50 poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide) copolymer; and

(iii) about 50 wt% of N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone.

14. The use of claim 1, wherein the first composition and the second composition each comprise:

(i) about 14 wt% to about 22 wt% of buprenorphine free base;

(ii) about 22 wt% to about 42 wt% of a 50:50 to 80:20 poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide) copolymer; and

(iii) about 40 wt% to about 60 wt% of N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone.

15. The use of claim 1, wherein the first composition and the second composition each comprise:

(i) about 10 wt% to about 30 wt% of buprenorphine free base;

(ii) about 10 wt% to about 60 wt% of a 50:50 to 95:5 poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide) copolymer; and

(iii) about 30 wt% to about 70 wt% of N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone.

16. Use of buprenorphine in the manufacture of a medicament for treating opioid use disorder in a human in need thereof, wherein the medicament comprises:

(a) a first composition comprising about 300 mg of buprenorphine to be administered to the human once per month by subcutaneous injection for two months; wherein the first composition comprises (i) about 18 wt% of buprenorphine free base; (ii) about 32 wt% of a poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide) copolymer; and (iii) about 50 wt% of N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone; and

(b) a second composition comprising about 100 mg of buprenorphine to be administered thereafter to the human once per month by subcutaneous injection beginning with the third month; wherein the second composition comprises (i) about 18 wt% of buprenorphine free base; (ii) about 32 wt% of a poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide) copolymer; and (iii) about 50 wt% of N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone.

17. The use of claim 16, wherein the opioid use disorder is moderate severe opioid use disorder or severe opioid use disorder.

18. The use of claim 16, wherein the medicament for treating opioid use disorder decreases the Visual Analog Scale score.

19. The use of claim 16, wherein the poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide) copolymer in the first composition and the second composition is a 50:50 poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide) copolymer.

20. The use of claim 16, wherein the second composition is to be administered to the human once per month for at least four months.

21. Use of a composition in the manufacture of a medicament for treating opioid use disorder in a human in need thereof, wherein the composition comprises (i) about 18 wt% of buprenorphine free base; (ii) about 32 wt% of a poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide) copolymer; and (iii) about 50 wt% of N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone; and wherein the composition comprising about 300 mg of buprenorphine is to be administered to the human once per month by subcutaneous injection for at least six months to treat the opioid use disorder.