#### UNDERSTANDING

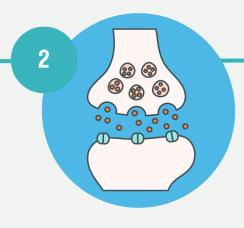
#### OPIOID RECEPTORS

# THE DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD OF PAIN RELIEF

### WHAT ARE OPIOID RECEPTORS —



- Opioid receptors are proteins on brain, spinal cord, and other body cells.
- They're part of the body's natural pain-relief system.
- Activated by natural opioids (endorphins) or synthetic opioids (morphine, fentanyl).
- Mu receptors: Pain relief, euphoria.
- Delta receptors: Mood regulation, well-being.
- Kappa receptors: Pain relief, dysphoria.



## HOW DO OPIOID — RECEPTORS WORK?

- Opioids bind to receptors, triggering changes in the nervous system.
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- Pain relief: Blocks pain signals.
- Euphoria: Increases dopamine release (pleasure).
- Sedation: Slows nerve activity.
- Suppression of breathing: Depresses respiratory centers in the brain (danger of overdose).

#### **OPIOID DEPENDENCY**

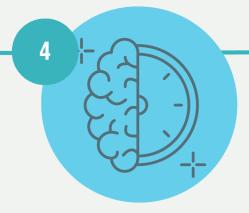


- Tolerance: Body adapts, needing higher doses.
- **Dependence:** Brain relies on opioids for function.
- Addiction: Compulsive use despite negative consequences.

#### UNDERSTANDING

#### OPIOID RECEPTORS

# THE DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD OF PAIN RELIEF

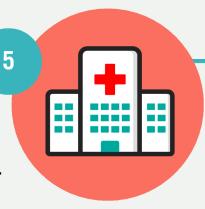


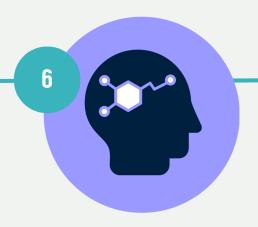
### OPIOID WITHDRAWAL & THE ROLE OF RECEPTORS

- Withdrawal happens when opioid use stops and receptors are "empty."
- The nervous system becomes hyperactive.
- Common symptoms: cravings, anxiety, muscle aches, insomnia, flu-like symptoms, gastrointestinal distress, sweating, chills, increased heart rate and blood pressure.

#### WHY MEDICAL DETOX IS CRUCIAL ———

 Medical detox provides a safe environment and medications to ease withdrawal symptoms.





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- The body produces natural opioids (endorphins).
- Synthetic opioids overstimulate receptors, leading to euphoria and rewiring the brain.

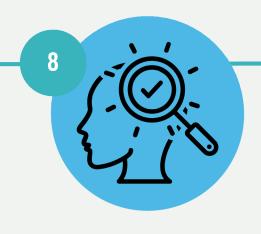
#### UNDERSTANDING

#### OPIOID RECEPTORS

## THE DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD OF PAIN RELIEF

### CAN OPIOID RECEPTORS HEAL?

- 7
- Neuroplasticity: The brain can heal and reorganize itself.
- Receptors regain normal function over time.
- The reward system recovers, and natural dopamine production increases.



## WHY UNDERSTANDING RECEPTORS MATTERS

 Understanding opioid receptors helps us make informed decisions about pain relief and dependence.

#### BREAK FREE FROM OPIOIDS WITH WAISMANN METHOD®



- Medically Assisted Detoxification:
  Comprehensive care to address opioid dependence.
- Call now to start your journey with the nation's leading detox experts!
- 1-800-423-2482