

Victorian Opioid Pharmacotherapy Program Resources

Order form for prescribers and dispensers

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Methadone Treatment in Victoria User Information Booklet



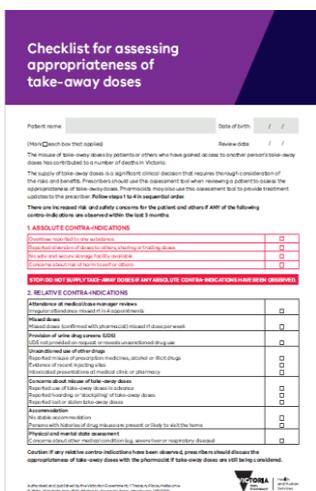
Methadone Treatment in Victoria User information booklet

This information booklet is for people who are dependent on opiates. It is also for partners, family and friends of people who are opiate dependent and others who may wish to support them in treatment.

This is also available in: Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Dinka, Farsi, Greek, Italian, Khmer, Macedonian, Serbian, Spanish, Turkish and Vietnamese

Quantity	
10 books	
25 books	
50 books	
1 box	

Checklist for assessing appropriateness of take-away doses



Checklist for assessing appropriateness of take-away doses

Take-away doses are not solely determined by time in continuous treatment; assessment of treatment stability and suitability for take-away doses are key considerations. This document provides an assessment tool, to assist in evaluating an individual patient's suitability for take-away doses. It can be used to explain to the patient why it may be necessary to refuse provision of take-away doses and a means of encouraging progress towards suitability for take-away doses. The assessment tool should be worked through with the patient. Include in patient records.

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1 pad of 50	
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Please turn over

Starting methadone or buprenorphine

Starting methadone or buprenorphine

Methadone or buprenorphine can help you deal with heroin or opioid use problems.

- They are used to control heroin or opioid dependence, but help manage your drug use.
- You can reduce or stop taking opioids and reduce the risk of getting HIV and hepatitis.

You will have to come over your own drug use. As there will be more time for other aspects of your life, arrangements will need to be made for your care and one pharmacy for methadone or buprenorphine treatment. You need to:

- see your doctor regularly during the first few weeks, and if needed, until your dose has been set and you feel comfortable.
- see your pharmacist regularly to pick up your dose when it is due.

Check the premises of your methadone or buprenorphine pharmacy for signs of people using methadone or buprenorphine or other opioid medicines.

Direct Line: 1800 888 236

For more information about methadone or buprenorphine treatment, ask your doctor or pharmacist for a copy of the information booklet.

Never leave a methadone patient to 'sleep it off'
Call an ambulance immediately: Dial 000

Methadone:

- Your doctor will start you on a low dose.
- Methadone is not new to the body.
- Your dose will then be increased slowly until you are comfortable.
- One dose is usually effective for 24 hours.

Buprenorphine and buprenorphine/naloxone:

- There is a lower risk of overdose than methadone. You will need to see your doctor regularly.
- Buprenorphine is a partial opioid agonist, which means it does not cause the same level of sedation, respiratory depression, and loss of consciousness as full opioid agonists.
- If you don't take your buprenorphine too soon after your last dose, you may experience withdrawal symptoms.

Caution: Methadone and buprenorphine are sedating drugs like heroin - you can overdose or die.

- Overdose risk is higher when you are also taking alcohol, benzodiazepines, other opioids or some other drugs like tramadol or gabapentin.
- Do not take medications without your doctor's or pharmacist's advice.
- Taking methadone or buprenorphine with alcohol increases sedating effects and risk of overdose.

IMPORTANT: The risk of overdose is highest in the first 14 days of treatment.

Use of other sedating drugs also adds to the risk. Learn the symptoms of drug overdose and tell your friend or family for help and help you. It is necessary to try to stop your breathing if you are not breathing or you are not conscious.

Victoria Health Services

Starting methadone or buprenorphine

This double sided leaflet provides advice about the risks of unsupervised drug and/or alcohol use, as well as symptoms of excessive opioid sedation, particularly while establishing an effective dose of methadone or buprenorphine. It also contains information about naloxone.

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Patient agreement form: buprenorphine/ naloxone take-away doses

Patient agreement form: buprenorphine/naloxone take-away doses

Patient name: _____ Date of birth: ____/____/____

Buprenorphine is an effective medicine when used to safely and responsibly use heroin, when used responsibly. However, there is a risk of harm or death. Information about buprenorphine and naloxone take-away doses is provided to you to help you understand the risks and responsibilities of receiving take-away doses. This information booklet is provided to you to help you understand the risks and responsibilities of receiving take-away doses. It is important that you read this information booklet carefully and discuss it with your doctor or pharmacist. It is important that you read this information booklet carefully and discuss it with your doctor or pharmacist. It is important that you read this information booklet carefully and discuss it with your doctor or pharmacist.

This agreement is valid only when you take away doses. It is about your responsibility for the take-away doses and the risks of overdose.

1. I understand that buprenorphine/naloxone take-away doses are provided to me only because of my need for them. They are not for sale or for use by anyone else.
2. I understand that buprenorphine/naloxone take-away doses are only provided to me if my prescriber has assessed that I am able and that it is in my best interests to do so. I will be responsible for the safe use of the take-away doses and for the safe disposal of any unused take-away doses.
3. I understand that buprenorphine/naloxone take-away doses are only provided to me if my prescriber has assessed that I am able and that it is in my best interests to do so. I will be responsible for the safe use of the take-away doses and for the safe disposal of any unused take-away doses.
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7. I agree to take full responsibility for all take-away doses that I receive. I understand that I am responsible for the safe use of the take-away doses and for the safe disposal of any unused take-away doses. I understand that I am responsible for the safe use of the take-away doses and for the safe disposal of any unused take-away doses.
8. I understand that buprenorphine/naloxone take-away doses are only provided to me if my prescriber has assessed that I am able and that it is in my best interests to do so. I will be responsible for the safe use of the take-away doses and for the safe disposal of any unused take-away doses.
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Patient signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Prescriber: _____ Date: ____/____/____

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Patient agreement form: buprenorphine/naloxone take-away doses.

A written agreement should be considered to ensure patients are fully aware of the structure and responsibility of receiving take-away doses. To be used for each patient by both prescribers and dispensers.

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Patient agreement form: methadone take-away doses

Patient agreement form: methadone take-away doses

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Methadone is an effective medicine when used to safely and responsibly use heroin, when used responsibly. However, there is a risk of harm or death. Information about methadone and naloxone take-away doses is provided to you to help you understand the risks and responsibilities of receiving take-away doses. This information booklet is provided to you to help you understand the risks and responsibilities of receiving take-away doses. It is important that you read this information booklet carefully and discuss it with your doctor or pharmacist. It is important that you read this information booklet carefully and discuss it with your doctor or pharmacist.

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Prescriber: _____ Date: ____/____/____

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Please email this order form to Maureen.Chesler@dhs.vic.gov.au or fax 9096 9170