

Medication

The ODP offers a type of medicine called Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT). This medicine helps stop cravings and withdrawal symptoms, so you can feel normal and get back to your daily life. You can take this medicine by mouth, as an injection once per month, or get it at your local pharmacy.

If you miss a dose, your doctor might lower the amount of medicine you take to keep you safe. The program works closely with your pharmacy to make sure you're getting the right dose. If you have any questions about missing a dose or anything else, talk to your doctor or someone from the ODP team.

OAT medications include:

- Buprenorphine/Naloxone
- Extended-Release Buprenorphine
- Methadone
- Slow-release Oral Morphine

Please ask a team member if you would like more information about the medication prescribed to you.

You may be asked to witness your medication when you take it in front of a health care professional.

Health & Support

Services available may include:

- ongoing support and monitoring (e.g. prescription management, medical follow up, urine testing, other medical tests to support your health (e.g. ECG), and treatment planning)
- health, safety and risk reduction education
- counselling and mental health supports
- links to community pharmacists
- links to other treatment services
- links to other social and health support systems.

Questions? Reach out to your treatment team.

We are here to help.

**For 24/7 help call,
Addiction Helpline at:
1-866-332-2322**



Opioid Dependency Program

**New Opioid Agonist Treatment
Client Information**



What is ODP?

The Opioid Dependency Program, or ODP, helps people who are struggling with opioid use. It provides medicine and support to help them feel better and live healthier lives. ODP will connect you to prescribers, medication, and other kinds of help, like support with housing, income, mental health, legal issues, or relationships. You can get these services in person, online, or both.

Medication Coverage

Your medication will be filled by a community pharmacy. If you do not have prescription medication benefit coverage, please speak with a team member to find out how you can obtain support to pay for your medications. We will work with you to get coverage as quickly as possible and support you to apply for longer term coverage.

Travelling, Carry-Home Doses & Lost Doses

If you are travelling speak with a nurse or your prescriber to make arrangements prior to travel.

You may be provided with carry-home doses of your medication. Or you might be prescribed a combination of both. It is important to ensure your medication is kept somewhere safe and secure if you have carry-home doses. It is very important you take your medication as it is prescribed.

If your OAT is lost, stolen, or spilled please contact the ODP. The doses may or may not be replaced, but it is important to communicate this with your treatment team.

Risk of Poisoning

Some substances can lead to poisoning and death if you use them without medical supervision while on OAT. Please notify the clinic of all substances and medicines you currently use. Avoid alcohol and benzodiazepines, which can increase the risk of poisoning. Ensure you know the signs of poisoning (drowsiness, slow breathing, slow heartbeat, cold and clammy skin, bluish skin). Find and/or use a naloxone kit if a poisoning occurs and call 911. The ODP program can provide you with a naloxone kit if you do not have one.

Program Expectations

It's important that you come to your appointments as scheduled. When you first start treatment, you will need to see your doctor or nurse practitioner more often. If you can't make it to an appointment, please call the clinic to reschedule. If you miss a lot of appointments, the prescriber might start to lower your medication until you come in for a visit.

You will also need to give urine samples sometimes during your treatment. This helps your prescriber see how well the treatment is working for you. Urine tests are not a punishment; they just help your prescriber understand your progress.

If you want to stop the program or switch to a different program, please let the staff know. It can be dangerous to stop your medication abruptly and we want to help you through any changes.

Safety is very important to us. Please be respectful to other clients and staff. Any threats or violent behavior towards anyone will not be allowed.