Keep your medicine in a safe and secure place where children and others can’t get to them.

Warn your family and friends about the risks of opioid poisoning and toxicity.
STAY SAFE WHILE ON OPIOID AGONIST TREATMENT (OAT)

The Opioid Dependency Program (ODP) is committed to helping you lead a healthy life, and to keeping you and those around you safe. Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) refers to safe use of prescribed medicine, such as methadone or Suboxone, to help you with opioid use.

Store your medicine somewhere safe and secure. A small amount of OAT medicine can be fatal to a child or an adult who doesn’t have a tolerance to opioids.

Tell family and friends that OAT medicine is safe for you but could be fatal for them.

Advise your physician or anyone else who is giving you medical treatment that you are on OAT.

You need to inform ODP with any changes to your care plan, including prescriptions, recovery goals and health status.

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 that you currently use.

Avoid drinking alcohol. Alcohol and OAT medicine make each other stronger, and drinking increases the risk of poisoning.

Find and/or use a naloxone kit and get help in case of a poisoning. Call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency unit.

Ensure you know the signs of poisoning: drowsiness, slow breathing, slow heartbeat, cold and clammy skin, bluish skin, pinpoint pupils, confusion, coma.