

CPSM/CPhM/CRNM Process to Obtain OAT Prescribing Approvals or Dispense OAT in Manitoba

Methadone (Pathway # 1 for physicians and only pathway for NP's)

1) **For Prescribers (Physicians and Nurse Practitioners) only, Pharmacists skip to Step 2:**

For CPSM members: Write a letter to the Registrar of the CPSM, Dr. Ziomek, including:

- Requesting permission to pursue a methadone prescribing approval
- Your educational background (year of graduation, specialty etc.)
- Your current work location(s)
- Are there any established methadone prescribers in your practice?
- Intended target population for treatment (your own patients, patients from your group practice, pregnant women)
- Projected number of patients needing opioid agonist therapy services
- **IMPORTANT:** Include the names and contact information (including e-mail addresses if possible) of two references.
 - o These individuals need to be physicians with whom you have worked or trained under recently and who have knowledge of your work. They will be contacted by the CPSM directly to provide a reference regarding your general clinical competency and character.
- Email letter to MReinecke@cpsm.mb.ca who will forward to Registrar, Dr. Ziomek, after initial review.

For CRNM members: Submit [CRNM Methadone Prescribing for Opioid Use Disorder Training Application](#) to a Practice and Standards Consultant at practice@crnm.mb.ca.

- Include the names and contact information (including e-mail addresses if possible) of two references. One of these individuals needs to be your supervising manager. The second reference needs to be a professional with whom you have worked or trained with recently. Both references need to have knowledge of your work. They will be contacted by the CRNM directly to provide a reference regarding your general clinical competency and character.

2) Pre-register for the training workshop (2 full days): “Opioid Agonist Therapy 101: An Introduction to Clinical Practice”, by contacting Marina Reinecke at 204 294 2162 or MReinecke@cpsm.mb.ca. A registration fee applies.

3) Complete the following pre-reading PRIOR to attending the training workshop:

- a) CAMH Making the Choice, Making it Work: Treatment for Opioid Addiction, Second Edition (formerly Methadone Maintenance Treatment: Client Handbook); Can be found at: <https://www.camh.ca/-/media/files/guides-and-publications/making-choice-en.pdf>

- b) The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba's publication: "Manitoba Methadone & Buprenorphine Maintenance: Recommended Practice"; Can be found at:
[Recommended Practice Book](#)

- c) The College of Pharmacists of Manitoba guidelines: "Opioid Replacement Therapy Guidelines for Manitoba Pharmacists" (required reading for Pharmacists, optional for Prescribers); Can be found at:
<http://www.cphm.ca/uploaded/web/Guidelines/ORT%20/Opioid%20Replacement%20Therapy%20Guidelines%20for%20Manitoba%20Pharmacists.pdf>

- 4) Attend two day workshop: "Opioid Agonist Therapy 101: An introduction to clinical practice". This includes a review of methadone and buprenorphine/naloxone. This training starts at 8:20am on both days. Lunch and coffee breaks are provided.

- 5) **Required for Prescribers, optional for Pharmacists - Clinical training preceptorship:**
A minimum of four half days of clinical training shadowing an experienced methadone and buprenorphine/naloxone provider. You have to arrange these half days yourself with the approved supervising prescribers. The four clinics have to be arranged and completed within 6 months of completing the theoretical training workshop. The four clinics have to be arranged with no more than two different supervising prescribers. Contact information for approved supervising prescribers is provided at the theoretical training workshop. It is also available in advance by e-mail; write to MReinecke@cpsm.mb.ca.

For CPSM members: Once you have completed the clinical training, please e-mail confirmation of the same to MReinecke@cpsm.mb.ca, including dates of clinics attended and who the supervising physician was for each clinic.

For CRNM members: Submit application, [Recommendation for a Methadone Prescribing Exemption](#), to a Practice Standards Consultant at practice@crnm.mb.ca.

For CPhM members: You do not need to provide confirmation of completion of clinical training to the College at this time, but you must document the dates and times for your records. Please see the CPhM website www.cphm.ca for information on accreditation of clinical training.

- 6) **For Prescribers only – Prescribing approval:**
 - a. For CPSM members: At this point, confirmation of completion of training for a methadone prescribing approval will be forwarded to Dr. Ziomek on your behalf. You will be copied on this e-mail. You may start prescribing methadone as soon as you receive a letter from Dr. Ziomek confirming your methadone prescribing approval.
 - b. For CRNM members: You may start prescribing methadone as soon as you receive notification from CRNM confirming that you have a methadone prescribing exemption for opioid dependence.

Buprenorphine/Naloxone

For Nurse Practitioners only - To obtain buprenorphine/naloxone notation in Manitoba:

- a) Complete **one** of the following:
 - I. “Opioid Replacement Therapy 101: An Introduction to Clinical Practice” offered by the CPSM in partnership with the CRNM and CPhM;
 - II. “Buprenorphine Prescribing Course” offered by the Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine; or
 - III. “Buprenorphine-Naloxone Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder” formerly “Buprenorphine-Assisted Treatment of Opioid Dependence: An Online Course for Front-Line Clinicians” offered by The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH).
- b) E-mail your certificate of completion to: practice@crnm.mb.ca
- c) You will receive an email from CRNM confirming your buprenorphine prescribing privileges.

For more information, please see [Prescribing Controlled Drugs and Substances](#) at www.crnmb.ca.

For Physicians only- Two different pathways are available to obtain buprenorphine/naloxone prescribing approval ONLY (without methadone) in Manitoba:

Pathway # 1

- a) Complete the steps to obtain a methadone prescribing approval as outlined above.
- b) Include your request for a buprenorphine/naloxone prescribing approval in your letter to the Registrar outlined under Step 1.
- c) You may start prescribing buprenorphine/naloxone once you receive a letter from Dr. Ziomek confirming your buprenorphine/naloxone prescribing approval.

Pathway # 2

A physician who is seeking a buprenorphine/naloxone prescribing approval ONLY (without a methadone approval) may follow this alternate pathway:

- a. Write a letter to the Registrar, Dr. Ziomek, requesting approval to prescribe buprenorphine/naloxone for opioid use disorder.
- b. Complete **one** of the following CPSM approved courses for prescribing buprenorphine/naloxone:
 - I. “Opioid Replacement Therapy 101: An Introduction to Clinical Practice” - Offered by the CPSM in partnership with the CRNM and CPhM; or
 - II. “The Buprenorphine Prescribing Course” offered by the Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine; or
 - III. “Buprenorphine-Naloxone Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder” formerly “Buprenorphine-Assisted Treatment of Opioid Dependence: An Online Course for Front-Line Clinicians” offered by The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH).

IV. The online Addiction Medicine Diploma offered by the British Columbia Centre on Substance Use.

- c. At this point, applicants have to declare their choice of either route A or route B. E-mail MReinecke@cpsm.mb.ca to advise that you have completed steps a. and b. above and whether you are pursuing route A or B (outlined below) moving forward.

Route A: Applicants pursuing route B must complete a clinical preceptorship consisting of a minimum of one half day of clinical training shadowing an experienced buprenorphine/naloxone provider. You have to arrange this half day yourself with an approved supervising prescriber. The clinic time has to be arranged and completed within 3 months of completing the theoretical training workshop. Contact information for approved supervising prescribers is available by writing to MReinecke@cpsm.mb.ca.

Once you have completed the clinical training, please e-mail confirmation of the same to MReinecke@cpsm.mb.ca, including date of clinic attended and who the supervising physician was. The physician may start prescribing buprenorphine/naloxone once he/she receives a letter from the Registrar confirming his/her buprenorphine/naloxone prescribing approval.

Route B: Applicants pursuing route B must have their first five buprenorphine/naloxone starts mentored by a physician licensed in Manitoba who has experience in prescribing buprenorphine/naloxone. Mentorship can be through:

- The Rapid Access to Consultative Expertise (RACE) substance use disorders line
- Alternatively, the physician may choose to work with another physician with experience prescribing buprenorphine/naloxone, who agrees in writing to serve as a mentor to the physician. Applicants may contact Marina Reinecke at 204 2942162 or MReinecke@cpsm.mb.ca for a list of CPSM approved mentors.

The physician and the mentor must both ensure that each of them creates and maintains appropriate documentation of the discussion and recommendations. Once mentorship is completed, appropriate documentation must be sent to the Registrar of the College by the mentor indicating that the applicant physician can prescribe buprenorphine/naloxone without further supervision.

The physician may start prescribing buprenorphine/naloxone without supervision once he/she receives a letter from the Registrar confirming his/her buprenorphine/naloxone prescribing approval.

As a licenced methadone and/or buprenorphine/naloxone provider in Manitoba, you will:

- 1) Have access to mentoring/support by a prescribing peer in regards to your opioid agonist therapy practice.

- 2) Be required to participate in your college's continuing competence requirement or annual CPD that relates specifically to opioid agonist therapy and/or addiction in general.
- 3) Be subject to intermittent practice audits by an experienced methadone and/or buprenorphine/naloxone prescriber.
- 4) Be required to complete an annual Opioid Agonist Therapy Providers' questionnaire about your practice profile as administered by the appropriate college.

For Pharmacists only - To dispense buprenorphine/naloxone in Manitoba:

- a. Read the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba guidelines: "Opioid Replacement Therapy Guidelines for Manitoba Pharmacists" found at:
<http://www.cphm.ca/uploaded/web/Guidelines/ORT%20/Opioid%20Replacement%20Therapy%20Guidelines%20for%20Manitoba%20Pharmacists.pdf>
- b. Read the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba's publication, "Manitoba Methadone & Buprenorphine Maintenance: Recommended Practice", found at:
[Recommended Practice Book](#)
- c. Complete **one** of the following CPhM approved courses:
 - I. "Opioid Replacement Therapy 101: An Introduction to Clinical Practice" offered by the CPSM in partnership with the CRNM and CPhM;
 - II. "Buprenorphine Prescribing Course" offered by the Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine; or
 - III. "Buprenorphine-Naloxone Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder" formerly "Buprenorphine-Assisted Treatment of Opioid Dependence: An Online Course for Front-Line Clinicians" offered by The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH).

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact:

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