



Memorandum of Understanding Pier Pharmacy and PHS Health Care

Injectable opioid agonist treatment (iOAT) is an evidence based treatment intervention for people with severe opioid use disorder who have been refractory to treatment with oral agonist therapy. Injectable treatment has been demonstrated to have increased retention to care, decrease in illicit opioid use, and increased quality of life. iOAT is part of the continuum of care when treating people with opioid use disorder.

PHS Health Care and Pier pharmacy are partnering to create a pharmacy based injection model of delivery of iOAT. Patients will be seen in clinic for primary care and prescriptions, and attend the pharmacy twice daily for self-administration of their hydromorphone.

Clinical care will follow the British Columbia Center on Substance Use (BCCSU) Guidance document on how to care for people on iOAT.

Expectations of PHS Health Care

1. Provide full primary care and addiction medicine care to patients enrolled in our iOAT program as per the BCCSU iOAT guidance document.
2. Select patients for iOAT based on the BCCSU guidance document eligibility criteria.
3. Provide nursing and physician supervision for iOAT initiations and titrations
4. Provide prescriptions for patients for iOAT and OAT to be filled at Pier Pharmacy
5. Provide prompt response to any communications from the pharmacy
6. Have ongoing close communication with the clinical team at Pier Pharmacy

Expectations of Pier Pharmacy

1. Perform pre-injection assessments on patients as per the BCCSU iOAT guidance document.
2. Provide a safe, clean space that is separate from the public for patients to self administer injections

3. Provide a sink for hand washing
4. Provide clean injection supplies
5. Supervise injection to encourage safe injection techniques and monitor for diversion
6. Be trained in overdose management and have supplies to support oxygen and naloxone administration
7. Observe patients for 15-20 minutes post injection and perform a post injection assessment as per the BCCSU iOAT guidance document.
8. Have ongoing close communication with clinical team at PHS Health Care



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