

Substance Use Discharge Planning: ED Huddle Education Tool

Case Study

Your patient who uses substances and is on OAT (opioid agonist therapy) is now medically stable and nearing discharge. What considerations are required to ensure a safe discharge?

Answer

- Start planning as soon as possible and on an ongoing basis before discharge
- Provide discharge prescriptions or medications
 - **Buprenorphine** can be given or prescribed as take-home doses (BTG Kits)
 - **Review BTG home induction (traditional induction or micro-dosing induction)**
 - **Methadone** and **SROM** prescriptions to be filled by community pharmacy
 - Send prescriptions to community pharmacy, contact pharmacy and/or community prescriber directly, when possible, to provide relevant information. e.g. discharge summary
- Offer connection resources for continuity of care
 - Support with connection to a community prescriber and/ or pharmacy as needed: Lighthouse Virtual Substance Use Care Clinic, Rapid Access Addiction Clinic (RAAC)
 - For further support to connect with care a referral to outreach service (Overdose Outreach Team)
- Offer harm reduction resources that aligns with patient's goals (e.g. OPS map, safer use supplies, education materials)
- Discuss with patient if any support people should be alerted of their treatment plan (e.g family, friends, supportive housing staff). Offer to give a copy of important paperwork to them.

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Resources

Clinical

BCCSU Acute Care Clinical Resources:

[Acute Clinical Care Guidance](#)

Clinical Guidance- Opioid Use:

[Clinical Guideline for Treating Opioid Use Disorder](#)

Clinical Guidance- Alcohol Use:

[Clinical Guideline for High-Risk Drinking and Alcohol Use Disorder](#)

[Help with Drinking Website](#)

Clinical Guidance- Stimulant Use:

[Stimulant Use Disorder Practice Update](#)

Clinical Consultation: (if onsite Addiction Medicine consult team
not available)

[24/7 Addiction Medicine Clinician Support Line](#)

[Rapid Access to Consultative Expertise \(RACE\)](#)

Discharge Planning

Harm Reduction Resources:

[Harm Reduction Resource Package](#)

[DST: Dispensing/Distributing Take Home Naloxone Kits](#)

[Safe Injecting Pamphlet; Safe Smoking Pamphlet](#)

[VCH Harm Reduction web page](#)

Opioid Agonist Therapy Resources:

[Buprenorphine/Naloxone to go \(BTG\) kits](#)

[OAT Clinics Accepting New Patients](#)

Transition to Community Resources:

[VCH SURKit Transition to Care- Next Best Step](#)

[Transitions Guide](#)

[BC 211 Shelter Lists](#)

Indigenous Health

[Indigenous Services and Resources](#)