

Methadone Medication Administration: ED Huddle Education Tool

Case Study

Your patient is ordered Methadone and then can be discharged. What steps do you take for administration?

Answer

- Most commonly administered as a liquid for oral consumption.
- Refer to site specific guidelines for Independent Double Check (IDC) of Medications
- Methadone **does not** have a respiratory ceiling effect- pre and post dose monitoring required to ensure patient safety:
 - **Pre-dose** - Hold dose if POSS 3 or more
 - **Post dose - Contact MRP if:** POSS 3 or more, respiratory rate less than 12 or O2 saturation less than 92%
 - Concerns of methadone toxicity: monitor the patient at 3-hours post-dose

Resources

SHOP

[BCCSU/VCH Hospital Care Substance Use Guidelines](#)



Substance Use Consult Service

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

Clinical Resources and Tools:

[POSS](#)

[PHC Independent Double Check \(IDC\) of Medications](#)

[VCH Independent Double Check \(IDC\) of Medications](#)

BCCSU Clinical Resources:

[Acute Clinical Care Guidance](#)

[Clinical Summary for Methadone](#)