

# Depot Buprenorphine in Pharmacy Pilot

## Information Sheet and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

The University of Sydney has partnered with the Pharmacy Guild, Pharmaceutical Society of Australia and NSW Health to pilot a community pharmacy-based depot buprenorphine program.

### Why are we piloting depot buprenorphine injections in community pharmacies?

#### To increase access and choice for patients on the Opioid Treatment Program (OTP)

The pilot will investigate the suitability of providing depot buprenorphine injections in community pharmacies as an ongoing option for OTP clients.

## June 2022 to October 2022

Patients receiving their first injection at the pharmacy within this window can continue the pilot for the three-month period (total of 3 injections).



#### How can I take part in the pilot for my depot buprenorphine injections?

**Discuss your interest with your doctor or pharmacist.** Your doctor will discuss your specific circumstances with you, and together, decide whether it is a suitable option. Your pharmacist and doctor will coordinate the required prescription/ paperwork.



#### What will happen when the pilot has ended?

**Discuss with your pharmacist whether you would like to continue your treatment this way.** If you decide that this is not suitable for you, your pharmacist can arrange the transfer of care back to your previous dosing arrangements.



#### How can I find a pharmacy that is participating in the pilot near me?

The **Opioid Treatment Line (OTL) 1800 642 428** can provide information on pharmacies in your area that are participating in the pilot.



#### What can I do if I am unhappy with the treatment provided?

You are able return to your previous dosing arrangements. **Contact the Opioid Treatment Line (OTL) 1800 642 428 or NSW Users and AIDS Association's PeerLine 1800 644 413 for support or to discuss any concerns.** You can also give feedback in the pilot evaluation.



#### What is the cost of depot buprenorphine during the pilot?

**For the three-months of the pilot (3 injections) there will be no cost to patients.** After the pilot, a patient payment will be required to continue to receive treatment in this way. Discuss the cost of ongoing treatment with the pharmacist before commencing the pilot.



#### Who is the key contact for the pilot?

Pilot Project Lead:

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