



Opioid Substitution Program (OSP) Pharmacy Incentive Scheme (PhIS)

The NSW Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) seeks to reduce the social, economic, and health harms associated with opioid use. This includes the delivery of pharmacotherapy and associated services through various sectors, including community pharmacy.

To support community pharmacies in their involvement with the NSW OTP through provision of pharmacotherapy, community pharmacies are able to register to participate in the NSW Pharmacy Incentive Scheme.

The Pharmacy Incentive Scheme is funded by the NSW Ministry of Health, and is administered by The Pharmacy Guild of Australia (NSW Branch).

The new Pharmacy Incentive Scheme Declaration Form requires pharmacies to declare the number of eligible patients being dosed under the NSW Opioid Treatment Program for a minimum of 2 consecutive months during the 6 month reporting period.

The next Pharmacy Incentive Scheme reporting period is 1 November to 30 April and declarations are required to be submitted by the 31st May 2019. To ensure prompt payment of the Incentive, please ensure your declaration is submitted on time.

Pharmacy Incentive Scheme payments will be made for up to 20 patients per reporting period. The new 6-monthly reporting form is available on the NSW Guild website in the Professional Services area.

Following a recent safety review of the Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) conducted by the NSW Ministry of Health, the Pharmaceutical Regulatory Unit (PRU) will undertake regular audits of NSW dose administration points, including community pharmacies providing OTP services. Inspections and regular audits commenced in early 2019, and are intended to support and improve practice.

To assist pharmacies to prepare for this audit and to support continuous quality improvement, a pharmacy self-audit tool has been developed collaboratively by the NSW Ministry of Health, Pharmacy Guild and Pharmaceutical Society of Australia. The self-audit tool can be used to identify and address any gaps in practice in addition to the formal regulatory audit process. This activity may be suitable for inclusion in your professional development plan.

The self-audit tool can be accessed on the NSW Guild Website or by emailing healthservices@nsw.guild.org.au.

Community pharmacists provide an essential contribution to the NSW Opioid Treatment Program with an important role in reducing opioid-related harms in our communities. Regular audits and self-audits strengthen the safety and quality standards of service delivery across NSW, improving outcomes for patients and communities.

The NSW Ministry of Health is continuing to work with the Pharmacy Guild and the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia to support pharmacists involved in the Opioid Treatment Program, e.g. through the Pharmacy Incentive Scheme. Over the coming months there will be additional education and training opportunities available to support continuing professional development.

Thank you for continuing to support the NSW Opioid Treatment Program. If you have any questions about the program, the self-audit tool or the Pharmacy Incentive Scheme, please contact the NSW Branch on 02 9467 7100.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

**Regular audits of all registered OTP dose administration points have commenced.
New pharmacy self-audit tool available.**

