

Methadone: 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.
- Complete IDC (independent double check) with an authorized clinician.
*Exception: If the dose is in a client-specific, final dosage form and requires no preparation, only standard checks are needed.
- 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%

Resources

[Acute Clinical Care Guidance](#)

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

[BCCSU Methadone Clinical Summary](#)

[VCH Dispensing medications \(Nursing\)](#)