

Patient Name: _____

PHN: _____

(Or affix label here)

A comprehensive patient history and assessment should be taken prior to prescription of opioid agonist treatment, to ensure that such treatment is indicated and appropriate. The following checklist provides guidance for a thorough assessment.

Date: _____/_____/_____

Biopsychosocial History

- Prior drug treatment (pharmacological, detox, residential treatment, support groups, counselling, relapse prevention)
- Screen for process addiction such as sex, crime, spending, or gambling
- Legal history and current legal issues
- Financial concerns
- Employment history
- Family history
- Social/emotional supports
- Additional areas of concern for patient (e.g., sexual abuse, violence, child at risk, unsafe sex, other)

Note: A trauma-informed framework should be used when taking this history. The patient may not be comfortable talking about all of these topics until a positive working relationship and safety have been established. It is not required to have a complete biopsychosocial history in order to start OAT.

Substance Use

- Substance use history including type of drug, amount, route, age of first use, frequency of drug use, last use
- Withdrawal symptoms
- Overdose history
- Drug costs per day and source of money
- Document discussion regarding avoiding alcohol and respiratory depressants such as benzodiazepines

Medical History

- Psychiatric history
- Surgical history
- Medications
- Allergies
- Review of systems

Starting OAT

- Document that the patient meets DSM-5 criteria for OUD
- Assess and document stage of change
- Create and document a treatment plan including patient goals
- Check PharmaNet to avoid duplication of prescriptions and drug interactions with current medications
- Document rationale for therapeutic choices (methadone vs buprenorphine)
- Provide harm reduction education including prescription for take-home naloxone kit

Tests and Examinations

- HIV test
- Hepatitis C test
- Liver function test
- Urine drug test confirming opioid use
- Sexually transmitted infections screen
- Physical examination: intoxication, withdrawal, track marks
- Pregnancy test (if applicable)