

Professional Notice

To: Pharmacy Practitioners
From: Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists
Date: December 5, 2022
Re: Witnessed Opioid Agonist Therapy Ingestion During the Holidays

In anticipation of planned pharmacy closures this holiday season, now is the time for you to make any arrangements that are needed to ensure that your patients who are receiving daily witnessed ingestion of opioid agonist therapy (OAT) continue to receive their supervised doses in an appropriate manner. This may require you to collaborate on a plan with the patient's prescriber and/or another pharmacy.

It is critical for the health and safety of patients and the public that individuals are **not** prescribed take-home doses to accommodate the pharmacy's closure when it would otherwise be inappropriate.

The NSCP [Standards of Practice - OAMT](#) provides direction on expected practice in these situations:

- Standard 3 – Accessibility and Registration;
- Standard 5 – Interprofessional Collaboration;
- Appendix I – Guest Dosing

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to provide the best possible care to these vulnerable patients.