

Opioid Dependence Treatment Program (ODTP) Reforms

How will it work in practice?



Example 1: Methadone

Now

- On methadone
- Have a concession card
- Pay \$40 per week to the pharmacy for your methadone
- Does not count towards your PBS Safety Net
- Dosed at the pharmacy twice/week
- Provided with take-away doses for the other days

From 1 July

- Continue methadone
- Still go to the pharmacy for dosing twice/week and pick-up your take-aways for the other days
- Will only pay \$7.30 every 28 days
- Counts towards your PBS Safety Net
- Once you've paid a total of \$262.80 all prescription medicines are filled free of charge for the rest of the year including methadone

Example 2: Suboxone

Now

- On Suboxone film (20mgs - provided as 2x8mgs + 2x2mgs)
- Employed = a general patient (Medicare card/no concession)
- Pay \$50 per week to the pharmacy for your Suboxone
- Does not count towards your PBS Safety Net
- Pick-up 1 week of take-away doses each week

From 1 July

- Continue Suboxone film (20mgs - provided as 2x8mgs + 2x2mgs)
- Still go to the pharmacy once/week to pick-up
- Because you are on 2 different strengths you will pay 2x\$30 copays = \$60.00 every 28 days
- Counts towards your PBS Safety Net
- Once you've paid a total of \$1563.50 all prescription medicines will be cheaper for the rest of the year including Suboxone

Example 3: LA Buprenorphine, no concession card

Now

- On Long-Acting Buprenorphine injection (injected at pharmacy)
- Employed = a general patient (Medicare card/no concession)
- Pay \$150 per monthly injection to the pharmacy
- Does not count towards your PBS Safety Net

From 1 July

- Continue Long-Acting Buprenorphine injection (injected at pharmacy)
- Pay \$30.00 every 28 days
- Counts towards your PBS Safety Net
- Once you've paid a total of \$1563.50 all prescription medicines will be cheaper for the rest of the year including Long-Acting Buprenorphine injection

Example 4: LA Buprenorphine, concession card

Now

- On Long-Acting Buprenorphine injection (injected at pharmacy)
- Have a concession card
- Pay \$120 per monthly injection to the pharmacy
- Does not count towards your PBS Safety Net

From 1 July

- Continue Long-Acting Buprenorphine injection (injected at pharmacy)
- Pay \$7.30 every 28 days
- Counts towards your PBS Safety Net
- Once you've paid a total of \$262.80 all prescription medicines filled free of charge for the rest of the year including Long-Acting Buprenorphine injection

If you are on the ODTP and need further information or help with specific concerns in relation to the ODTP reforms, please reach out to one of AIVL's member organisations across the country <https://aivl.org.au/aivl-member-organisations/>