

## Professional Notice

**To: Pharmacy Practitioners**

**From:** The Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists

**Date:** April 20, 2020

**Re:** Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) Community of Practice Resource and Physician Call List

### OAT Providers Forum

The [Atlantic Mentorship Network-Pain and Addiction](#), in collaboration with NSHA's Primary Health Care and Mental Health and Addictions, is offering Nova Scotia's first community of practice [online forum](#) for providers of Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT).

The goals of this forum are to:

- provide a secure platform to discuss clinical practice issues and changes
- provide evidence-based resources for providers
- build a community of practice to collaborate and share experience
- build confidence and competence in the provision of OAT

The OAT Providers Forum is currently available to all OAT providers, including physicians, nurse practitioners and pharmacists registered to practice in Nova Scotia. This is a valuable opportunity for pharmacists to collaborate professionally with other OAT providers. There is no fee to join.

Please send your membership requests to: [atlantic.mentorshipnetwork@nshealth.ca](mailto:atlantic.mentorshipnetwork@nshealth.ca) by **Friday April 24, 2020** and watch your inbox for registration confirmation and to learn next steps.

### Physician Call List

NSHA Mental Health and Addictions has provided the following guidance and options to help pharmacists navigate situations where a patient is seeking continuation of OAT and either does not have a prescription or their primary OAT care provider cannot be contacted.

For stable patients, consistent with the [NSCP OAMT Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), pharmacists may renew a patient's prescription without the input of another prescriber for up to a maximum of 14 days.

For patients whose dose is not stable, pharmacists should contact the primary prescriber's practice to see if another prescriber in that practice can provide a prescription.

In the event that the patient's prescriber or another prescriber from that clinic is unavailable, and **as a last resort**, the following physicians have offered to be a resource for pharmacists. Pharmacists should [contact the OAT physician within their provincial health zone](#). Pharmacists in the Eastern Zone should contact a Central Zone physician.

Northern Zone		Central Zone		Western Zone		Eastern Zone
Helen Bell	(902) 899-3060	Leah Genge	(902) 221-0072	David Martel	(902) 298 0493	Contact physician in Central Zone
		Mike Gniewek	(902) 497-6882	Mike Gniewek	(902) 497-6882	
		Sam Hickcox	(902) 220-8238			
		David Saunders	(902) 497-6195			
		David Martel	(902) 298 0493			