

Admissions Review of Nursing Home Residents with a Methadone Order

Residents may be prescribed methadone for pain management or opioid use disorder (OUD). Prior to admission, it is important to identify the specific reason for the prescribed medication. Coordination with an opioid treatment program will be required for residents prescribed methadone for OUD.

Methadone

Pain Management

Factors that typically suggest methadone is prescribed for pain:

- ▶ Dose is less than 60 mg total per day
- ▶ Dose is split into 3 or 4 times per day
- ▶ If prescribed as an outpatient for pain, dispense record will be in the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) database.

Can be ordered from
long-term care (LTC) pharmacy

Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)

Factors that typically suggest methadone is prescribed for OUD:

- ▶ Dose is equal or greater than 60 mg per day
- ▶ Dose is once or twice a day
- ▶ Dispense records are not in the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) database.

Cannot be ordered from LTC
pharmacy. Requires coordination
with an opioid treatment
program (OTP)

If the indication (reason) for the methadone order is unclear, seek clarification from the referring hospital or provider.