

Unlocking Potential



Medication Management Services

As opioid consumption increases in North America, the prescription of safe and effective medications for pain has become a major concern for physicians. When patients are using opioids that have not proven effective or are causing unwanted side effects, other treatment approaches are necessary but not always easy to initiate.

OrionHealth offers consultation, assessment and treatment services that focus on medication management for patients with chronic non-cancer pain.

Opioid Medication Management Services

Assessment

A physician, pharmacist, psychologist and occupational therapist conduct an interdisciplinary assessment of your patient's opioid use and its impact on daily life.



Medication management requires complex problem solving, which may include addressing the following:

- Alternatives to opioids
- Alternative pain management techniques
- Opioid interaction with other medications
- Rotation of opioids
- Use of long-acting opioids
- Optimum dosing levels by types of pain
- Hazards of long-time opioid use
- Tapering the patient off opioids
- Opioid withdrawal symptoms
- Addictions or misuse issues (e.g. "doctor shopping" or "double doctoring")
- Opioid toxicology and random urine drug testing

Outcome: A report and case conference with the family physician and patient. A taper plan can also be outlined upon request.

The majority of patients who eliminate opioid medications during OrionHealth's program do not experience clinically significant increases in pain. In fact, some enjoy a decrease in pain levels after opioid elimination.

OrionHealth's Medication Management Program has benefited hundreds of patients since the program was initiated in 2008.

Consultation

Family physicians may wish to confer with the OrionHealth physician regarding:

- The optimum use of opioids
- Potential misuse of opioids
- Alternatives to opioids
- Tapering off opioids

Outcome: A report will be sent to the family physician.

Treatment Services

OrionHealth – Canmore offers an out-patient, interdisciplinary program to assist patients who are on levels of opioids that are no longer reducing and controlling pain and are impeding function. The Canmore clinic's tranquil mountain setting offers an environment for patients to focus on returning to life with fewer opioids, no opioids or with alternative medication that does not impair function.

The treatment team partners with the patient, treating physician and third party payer, as appropriate, to ensure outcome goals are shared, achieved and sustained.

Outcome: Patient medication intake is optimized or reduced as agreed. Patient coping strategies are increased and day-to-day functioning is improved. A discharge report is sent to the family physician and patient.

"A shadow of darkness lifted from my mind after my treatment." - OrionHealth patient

OrionHealth
REHABILITATION & ASSESSMENT CENTRES

For more information and referrals, contact:

Referrals coordinator: 1.800.558.4599 or 403.609.2228

Email: canmore@orionhealth.ca

(Dates and accommodation arranged by OrionHealth – Canmore)