



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – PHARMACISTS

Q. Exactly who is the College's MMT Training Program mandatory for?

- A. Any pharmacy manager or pharmacist who is employed in a community pharmacy that provides MMT services is required to take the mandatory MMT Training Program.

Q. When do I have to complete the training by?

- A. As per Professional Practice Policy-66 (PPP-66) Methadone Maintenance Treatment, all pharmacy managers employed in a community pharmacy that currently provides pharmacy services related to Methadone Maintenance Treatment and all staff pharmacists who currently provide community pharmacy services related to Methadone Maintenance Treatment or those pharmacy managers or staff pharmacists who anticipate providing community pharmacy services related to Methadone Maintenance Treatment:

- Successfully complete the mandatory CPBC training program by September 30, 2011
- Implement all necessary practice requirements identified in the CPBC Methadone Maintenance Treatment Policy Guide by January 1, 2012

Q. What practice requirements do I need to have implemented by January 1, 2012?

- A. All practice requirements that are described in the PPP-66 Policy and Policy Guide should be implemented as soon as you have completed the mandatory training but **MUST** be implemented no later than January 1, 2012. They include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Obtain all required references as stated in Professional Practice Policy-66
 - Obtain all appropriate forms that are necessary for documentation purposes as discussed throughout the MMT Training Session, available in the Policy Guide and individually (in Word and PDF format) on the College website (www.bcpharmacists.org) under Key Initiatives/Methadone Maintenance Treatment (MMT)
 - Obtain any necessary equipment as stated in the Policy Guide, for example glass cylinders

Q. I'm not currently providing methadone services but may want to in the future (after October 1, 2011) what would I need to do?

- A. As per Professional Practice Policy-66 (PPP-66) Methadone Maintenance Treatment, any pharmacy manager employed in a community pharmacy that wants to provide pharmacy services related to Methadone Maintenance Treatment and any staff pharmacist who wants to provide community pharmacy services related to Methadone Maintenance Treatment must:
- Successfully complete the mandatory CPBC training program and have all the necessary practice requirements, as identified in the CPBC Methadone Maintenance Treatment Policy Guide, in place **prior** to providing Methadone Maintenance Treatment services.

Q. What should I do if, after October 1, 2011, I haven't completed the mandatory MMT Training Session but a patient comes in requiring MMT services?

- A. The PPP-66 Policy Guide, Policy 6.3, Principle 6.3.1, states "...In an emergency situation related to continuity of care, where a referral to a qualified pharmacist (ie. a pharmacist who has completed the MMT training) is not possible, a pharmacist, who has not completed the mandatory training, may dispense the methadone if they adhere to the Seven Fundamentals established in Professional



Practice Policy (PPP-58) – Adapting a Prescription as outlined in the [PPP-58 Orientation Guide](#)”. The Guideline to this Principle goes on to say “Should the patient require ongoing care the pharmacist must ensure that they comply, as quickly as possible, with the requirements laid out in PPP-66. This includes, but is not limited to, the successful completion of the mandatory training session...”

Q. PPP-66 says I’m required to have the College of Pharmacists of BC’s PPP-66 Policy Guide, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC’s Methadone Maintenance Handbook (2009) and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health’s Methadone Maintenance: A Pharmacist’s Guide to Treatment, 2nd Edition (2004), where can I get them?

A. The required references can be found at the following:

- The College of Pharmacists of BC’s **PPP-66 Methadone Maintenance Treatment: Policy Guide** can be found on the College website (www.bcpharmacists.org) under Key Initiatives/Methadone Maintenance Treatment (MMT)
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC’s **Methadone Maintenance Handbook (2009)** is available on their website (www.cpsbc.ca) under About the College/Programs/BC Methadone Program
- The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health’s **Methadone Maintenance: A Pharmacist’s Guide to Treatment, 2nd Edition** is available for purchase on the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health’s website (www.camh.net) under Publications/CAMH Publications/Substance Use

Q. How can I take a ‘LIVE’ Training Session?

A. There are currently no ‘LIVE’ Training Sessions scheduled, however the ‘ONLINE’ Training Session is available on the College website (www.bcpharmacists.org) under Key Initiatives/Methadone Maintenance Treatment (MMT). If additional ‘LIVE’ sessions become available, pharmacists will be notified by email.

Q. How do I access the ‘ONLINE’ MMT Training Session?

A. The ‘ONLINE’ MMT Training Session is available for you to view at any time on the College website (www.bcpharmacists.org) under Key Initiatives/Methadone Maintenance Treatment (MMT). The format of the ‘ONLINE’ MMT Training Session is an audio recorded, PowerPoint presentation just over 1 hour in length and available 24/7. No registration is required and participants are able to stop and start the session as necessary.

Q. How long will the ‘ONLINE’ MMT Training Session be available for?

A. The ‘ONLINE’ MMT Training Session will be available on the College website indefinitely.

Q. I’ve completed the mandatory MMT Training Program (either ‘LIVE’ or ‘ONLINE’) and I’m now ready to complete the ‘Declaration of Completion and Understanding’. What do I do with it once I’ve signed it?

A. Once you’ve signed the Declaration, please retain it in the files at your primary pharmacy of employment. You are **not** required to forward a copy to the College.