

## 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.



Scan the QR code to view additional resources and trainings from the COE-NF.

www.nursinghomebehavioralhealth.org



This material was created by the Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health in Nursing Facilities. This work is made possible by grant number 1H79SM087155 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.