



Northern Territory of Australia

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Northern Territory of Australia

Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act

Code of Practice

I, Hugh Crosbie Heggie, Chief Health Officer, under section 244(4) of the *Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act* and with reference to section 42(1)(a) of the *Interpretation Act*, give notice of the making of a code of practice in relation to Schedule 8 substances on 7 June 2018.

Dated 26 September 2018

H. C. Heggie
Chief Health Officer

Note

The code of practice referred to in this instrument is a new Part 4, replacing Part 4 of the code of practice made on 21 March 2014 and notified by instrument entitled "Code of Practice - Schedule 8 Substances" dated 17 April 2014 and published in Gazette No. G16 of 23 April 2014.

Northern Territory of Australia

Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act

**Exemption From Requirement to Hold Schedule 8 Authorisation –
Methadone Liquid for Palliative Care in an End of Life Situation**

I, Hugh Crosbie Heggie, Chief Health Officer, under section 245(1)(a), (4)(b) and (5) of the *Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act*, exempt each class of authorised health practitioner specified in the Schedule, Part A, from the requirement to hold a Schedule 8 authorisation for dealing with a restricted Schedule 8 substance specified in the Schedule, Part B, for the purpose of therapeutic use and subject to the conditions specified in the Schedule, Part C.

Dated 26 September 2018

H. C. Heggie
Chief Health Officer

Note

The instrument entitled "Restricted Schedule 8 Substances", dated 17 April 2014 and published in Gazette No. G16 of 23 April 2014, declares methadone in liquid form at strength 5 mg/mL for oral administration to be a restricted Schedule 8 substance.

Schedule

Part A

- 1 An authorised health practitioner engaged to practise at a hospital.
- 2 An authorised health practitioner engaged by the Territory to practise at a Northern Territory Palliative Care Service (an **NTPCS**).
- 3 An authorised health practitioner working in conjunction with an NTPCS in a health centre or clinic.

Part B

Methadone in liquid form at strength 5 mg/mL for oral administration

Part C

- 1 An authorised health practitioner specified in Part A, item 1 or 2, may prescribe the restricted Schedule 8 substance specified in Part B (the **substance**) to a person if:
 - (a) the person is a patient of a hospital or an NTPCS specified in Part A;
and
 - (b) the patient is in the care of the authorised health practitioner; and
 - (c) the authorised health practitioner is providing palliative care to the patient in an end of life situation.
- 2 An authorised health practitioner specified in Part A, item 3, may prescribe the substance to a person on the condition that the practitioner notifies the CHO as soon as practicable but within 7 days after commencing a prescription of the substance to the patient.

Northern Territory of Australia

Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act

**Exemption From Requirement to Hold Schedule 8 Authorisation –
Patient Transfers to and from Custodial Correctional Facilities**

I, Hugh Crosbie Heggie, Chief Health Officer, under section 245(1)(a), (4)(b) and (5) of the *Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act*, exempt each class of authorised health practitioner specified in the Schedule, Part A, from the requirement to hold a Schedule 8 authorisation for dealing with a restricted Schedule 8 substance specified in the Schedule, Part B, for the purpose of treating an addiction to a substance, subject to the conditions specified in the Schedule, Part C.

Dated 26 September 2018

H. C. Heggie
Chief Health Officer

Note

The instrument entitled "Restricted Schedule 8 Substances", dated 17 April 2014 and published in Gazette No. G16 of 23 April 2014, declares each Schedule 8 substance specified in the Schedule, Part B, to be a restricted Schedule 8 substance.

Schedule

Part A

- 1 Authorised health practitioners holding a Schedule 8 authorisation to prescribe opioid substitution treatments on the conditions set out in Part 4A of the code of practice entitled "Code of Practice-Schedule 8 Substances" and made on 7 June 2018 (***accredited practitioners***); and
- 2 Authorised health practitioners (***CCF practitioners***):
 - (a) holding a Schedule 8 authorisation to prescribe opioid substitution treatments on the conditions set out in Part 4A of the code of practice entitled "Code of Practice – Schedule 8 Substances" and made on 7 June 2018; and
 - (b) engaged by a custodial correctional facility.

Part B

- 1 Buprenorphine in tablet form 0.4 mg, 2 mg or 8 mg for sublingual administration.
- 2 Buprenorphine 2 mg/naloxone 0.5 mg in film form for sublingual or buccal administration.
- 3 Buprenorphine 8 mg/naloxone 2 mg in film form for sublingual or buccal administration.
- 4 Methadone in liquid form at strength 5 mg/mL for oral administration.

Part C

- 1 An accredited practitioner may prescribe a restricted Schedule 8 substance specified in Part B to a person if:
 - (a) the person is being transferred from the care of a CCF practitioner to the care of the accredited practitioner; and
 - (b) prior to being transferred the person was being treated with the restricted Schedule 8 substance for substance addiction by the CCF practitioner; and

- (c) the accredited practitioner prescribes the restricted Schedule 8 substance in the same dosage regimen prescribed by the CCF practitioner to the person for a period of not more than 14 days.
- 2 A CCF practitioner may prescribe a restricted Schedule 8 substance specified in Part B to a person if:
- (a) the person is being transferred from the care of an accredited practitioner to the care of the CCF practitioner; and
 - (b) prior to being transferred the person was being treated with the restricted Schedule 8 substance for substance addiction by the accredited practitioner; and
 - (c) the CCF practitioner prescribes the restricted Schedule 8 substance in the same dosage regimen prescribed by the accredited practitioner to the person for a period of not more than 14 days.

Northern Territory of Australia

Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act

**Exemption From Requirement to Hold Schedule 8 Authorisation –
Patient Transfers to and from Shared Care Providers**

I, Hugh Crosbie Heggie, Chief Health Officer, under section 245(1)(a), (4)(b) and (5) of the *Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act*, exempt each class of authorised health practitioner specified in the Schedule, Part A, from the requirement to hold a Schedule 8 authorisation for dealing with a restricted Schedule 8 substance specified in the Schedule, Part B, for the purpose of treating an addiction to a substance, subject to the conditions specified in the Schedule, Part C.

Dated 26 September 2018

H. C. Heggie
Chief Health Officer

Note

The instrument entitled "Restricted Schedule 8 Substances", dated 17 April 2014 and published in Gazette No. G 16 of 23 April 2014, declares buprenorphine 2 mg/naloxone 0.5 mg in film form for sublingual or buccal administration and buprenorphine 8 mg/naloxone 2 mg in film form for sublingual or buccal administration to be restricted Schedule 8 substances.

Schedule

Part A

- 1 Authorised health practitioners (***shared care providers***):
 - (a) holding a Schedule 8 authorisation to prescribe opioid substitution treatments on the conditions set out in Part 4A of the code of practice entitled "Code of Practice – Schedule 8 Substances" and made on 7 June 2018; and
 - (b) working in private practice as shared care providers in conjunction with other authorised health practitioners engaged by alcohol and other drugs services or a custodial correctional facility.
- 2 Authorised health practitioners (***full prescribers***):
 - (a) holding a Schedule 8 authorisation to prescribe opioid substitution treatments on the conditions set out in Part 4A of the code of practice entitled "Code of Practice – Schedule 8 Substances" and made on 7 June 2018; and
 - (b) engaged by alcohol and other drugs services or a custodial correctional facility.
- 3 Authorised health practitioners working in a group practice with shared care providers.

Part B

- 1 Buprenorphine 2 mg/naloxone 0.5 mg in film form for sublingual or buccal administration.
- 2 Buprenorphine 8 mg/naloxone 2 mg in film form for sublingual or buccal administration.

Part C

- 1 A shared care provider may prescribe a restricted Schedule 8 substance specified in Part B to a person if:
 - (a) the person is being transferred from the care of a full prescriber to the care of the shared care provider; and

- (b) prior to being transferred the person was being treated with the restricted Schedule 8 substance for substance addiction by the full prescriber; and
 - (c) the shared care provider prescribes the restricted Schedule 8 substance in the same dosage regimen prescribed by the full prescriber to the person for a period of not more than 14 days.
- 2 A full prescriber may prescribe a restricted Schedule 8 substance specified in Part B to a person if:
 - (a) the person is being transferred from the care of a shared care provider to the care of the full prescriber; and
 - (b) prior to being transferred the person was being treated with the restricted Schedule 8 substance for substance addiction by the shared care provider; and
 - (c) the full prescriber prescribes the restricted Schedule 8 substance in the same dosage regimen prescribed by the shared care provider to the person for a period of not more than 14 days.
- 3 An authorised health practitioner specified in Part A, item 3, may prescribe a restricted Schedule 8 substance specified in Part B to a person if:
 - (a) the person is being transferred from the care of a full prescriber to a shared care provider; and
 - (b) prior to being transferred the person was being treated with the restricted Schedule 8 substance for substance addiction by the full prescriber; and
 - (c) the shared care provider is unable to prescribe the restricted Schedule 8 substance to the person; and
 - (d) the person is transferred from the care of the shared care provider to the care of the authorised health practitioner; and

- (e) the authorised health practitioner prescribes the restricted Schedule 8 substance in the same dosage regimen prescribed by the full prescriber to the person for a period of not more than 28 days.