



College of Physicians and
Surgeons of British Columbia
Serving the public by regulating physicians and surgeons

DRUG
PROGRAMS
Update

[College Bylaws amendment: Methadone Maintenance Program \[1\]](#)

On June 5, 2017, sections 1-19, 9-2 and 9-3 of the College [Bylaws](#) [2], which directed the former Methadone Maintenance Program, were repealed, and most components of the program transitioned to the BC Centre on Substance Use (BCCSU), including authorizing exemptions to physicians who wish to prescribe methadone for opioid use disorder under section 56 of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*.

This transition will allow the College to focus its efforts on the enhanced monitoring of all prescriptions for medications that pose challenges to patient safety. The College will continue to manage the following functions:

- operationalizing full and temporary authorizations to prescribe methadone for analgesia
- ordering regular duplicate and methadone duplicate prescription pads
- identifying methadone authorizations (both analgesia and opioid use disorder) to PharmaNet through the Provider Services Registry

To obtain an authorization to prescribe methadone for analgesia, physicians must complete the [Application for Authorization to Prescribe Methadone for Analgesia](#) [3] available on the College website, or contact the Drug Programs by email at drugprograms@cpsbc.ca [4], phone at 604-733-7758 extension 2629, or fax at 604-733-1267.

To obtain an authorization to prescribe methadone for opioid use disorder, physicians must contact the BC Centre on Substance Use at www.bccsu.ca [5] or by phone at 604-682-2344.

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Links

[1] <https://www.cpsbc.ca/for-physicians/college-connector/2017-V05-03/06>

[2] <https://www.cpsbc.ca/files/pdf/HPA-Bylaws.pdf>

[3]

<https://www.cpsbc.ca/files/pdf/DP-Application-for-Methadone-for-Analgesia-F.pdf>

[4] <mailto:drugprograms@cpsbc.ca>

[5] <http://www.bccsu.ca/>

[6] <https://www.cpsbc.ca/for-physicians/college-connector/2017-V05-03>

[7] <https://www.cpsbc.ca/for-physicians/college-connector/2017-V05-03/05>

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