



David Corbet ⌚ 3 days ago (Edit)

Great article. Thanks. One correction:

“Methadone isn’t covered by the PBS so it’s very expensive for patients to use it to treat drug addiction.” is factually incorrect.

Methadone and buprenorphine when being used for Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Dependence are supplied at no cost under the S100 scheme via the PBS. However pharmacies generally apply a dispensing/administration fee – and this fee does make access harder, and for many people impossible.

Newer long acting injectable buprenorphine with monthly dosing may be an option for some and potentially reduce these costs.

 Reply



Liz Sturgiss ⌚ 5 hours ago (Edit)

Hi David – I wasn’t clear in my interview with Felicity, thanks for picking this up. While s100 is the PBS, it is a very different process for prescribers who need to do additional training to be able to prescribe OMT for their patients. It often shocks me how much patients pay to be on OMT.

I agree that long acting buprenorphine might get around some of these costs. The barrier is finding a clinic to administer it with all the secure storage etc that needs to be accommodated. Thanks for your comment on the article.

 Reply