Acute pain relief in drug dependant patients undergoing surgery

All drug dependant patients must be referred to DDU as soon as possible

Pain Relief will be managed jointly between DDU & APT

Is patient known to DDU?

Yes → **Has DDU assessed the patient as stable on current prescription?**

Yes →

- Refer patient to Acute Pain Team
- Continue oral methadone for as long as possible
- If patient able to tolerate oral medication, use oral analgesia: immediate release morphine

<u>If oral route not available :</u>

- Continue methadone
- Consider PCA / subcutaneous protocol

No →

No →

- Start methadone 10mg BD P.O.
- Refer to DDU
- DDU to follow-up patient

- Refer patient to Acute Pain Team
- Continue oral methadone for as long as possible
- oral analgesia if able: immediate release morphine

<u>If oral route not available:</u>

- use subcutaneous morphine: start at 10mg PRN via Y-cann

<u>Prescribing guidelines:</u>

- **Maintain methadone dose as constant unless advised by DDU**
- **Avoid prescribing Dihydrocodeine, Temgesic or Oxycodone**
- **<u>Do not prescribe im/iv/sc if oral route available</u>**

Contact DDU who will advise on Methadone discharge prescription

Patient to be discharged on simple analgesics only

DDU 0207 530 3086 Acute Pain Management Bleep 2257

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