



Ministry of Health



College of Pharmacists of British Columbia

Nurse prescriptions for OAT – A note to B.C. pharmacists

In Fall 2020, the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) issued an order temporarily authorizing RNs and RPNs to diagnose and treat a substance use condition or disorder. They can provide and prescribe pharmaceutical alternatives, such as buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone®) and adjunct medications, to illegally produced drugs.

Pharmacists are expected to dispense OAT prescriptions from nurses on the same basis as any other practitioner.

If you are having difficulty entering claims in PharmaNet, your pharmacy software is likely out of date.

Contact your software vendor and corporate/chain IT department to confirm you have the most recent update installed.

PharmaNet instructions

To enter nurse prescriptions for OAT into PharmaNet, pharmacists will need:

- The 5-digit prescriber ID issued by the BC College of Nurses and Midwives. This number:
 - is not related to the College licence number
 - should be on the duplicate pad prescription (if it isn't, contact the prescriber)
 - starts with zeroes. E.g. 000XX
- The practitioner reference ID (see table)

Prescriber	Pract Ref ID	Prescriber ID (5 digits, starts with zeroes)
RN	R9	e.g. 00011, 00218
RPN	Y9	e.g. 00011, 00218

Note: Prescriber and practitioner reference IDs for RNs and RPNs are active in PharmaNet and in all vendor software. If you are having issues identifying a nurse prescriber or processing their prescription, contact your software vendor or IT department.

Questions about nurses prescribing OAT? Please see [PharmaCare Newsletter 20-019](#).

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