



College of Pharmacists
of British Columbia

Nurse prescriptions for opioid use disorder – note to B.C. pharmacists

Updated on: November 5, 2024

Dear pharmacist,

Pharmacists may receive prescriptions for opioid use disorder (OUD) written by certified registered nurses (RNs) and certified registered psychiatric nurses (RPNs).

RNs and RPNs who are certified in OUD (CP-OUD) can prescribe buprenorphine/naloxone, methadone, slow-release oral morphine (Kadian®), extended-release injectable buprenorphine (Sublocade®), and certain Schedule I or II drugs for OUD. Nurses are certified through the BC College of Nurses and Midwives.

When dispensing, pharmacists must verify that the nurse is identified as a prescriber in PharmaNet. The ID reference code for prescribing nurses is R9 (RNs) or Y9 (RPNs).

The best way to confirm is to search for the practitioner in PharmaNet by first and last name. This may show multiple records; select the most recent one.

If searching by ID reference code and practitioner ID, search using both the prescribing and non-prescribing codes and, if multiple records are shown, select the most recent one.

	Prescribing ID reference code	Non-prescribing ID reference code (do not fill)
RNs	R9	RX
RPNs	Y9	YX

If you have any questions, please call the PharmaCare Help Desk at 604-682-7120 (Lower Mainland) or 1-800-554-0225 (rest of B.C.).

Thank you for supporting OUD care for people in B.C.