



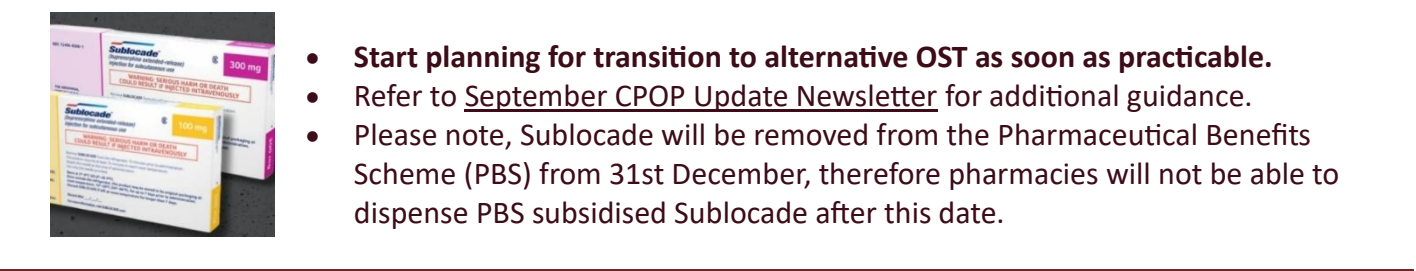
**CPOP Update**  
*Newsletter*

October 2026

## In this edition

- Sublocade discontinuation – reminder
- WA Takeaway Schedule – update coming soon
- Upcoming weekly CE sessions provided by CPP
- Practice reminders for pharmacists and prescribers

## Sublocade discontinuation – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026



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## WA Takeaway Schedule – changes coming soon

The WA takeaway schedule for sublingual buprenorphine has been reviewed to closer align WA to other Australian jurisdictions. The changes to the schedule will be provided as an addendum to the WA CPOP Policies and Procedures and are expected to come into effect by the end of 2026.

The CPP will be providing educational resources as well as a forum for prescribers and pharmacists to update them on what's new before the changes are rolled out.

The planned forum will be made available to attend in person or online, further details will be provided soon. Please keep an eye on your inboxes for updates.



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## FAQ Fridays - Online information and education sessions provided by CPP

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To support upcoming changes in the CPOP, the Community Pharmacotherapy Program team are commencing regular online information and education sessions for clinicians.

Each 30-minute session will be structured around a topic or case study so these sessions can be recorded for CPD.

Link to the first MS Teams meeting is here:

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 12pm – 12:30pm**

**Join:** <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/459059539407154?p=fEXJWGy5Y7ludWjh7c>

Meeting ID: 459 059 539 407 154

Passcode: rL3U2gd7

This session will cover:

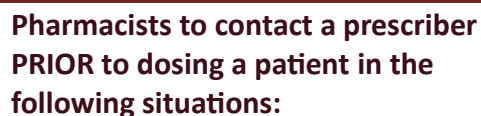
- Brief overview of upcoming changes to the WA takeaway schedule
- Pharmacist responsibilities when dispensing takeaways

**We invite you to log-in and bring your questions!**

We welcome your contributions, contact [CPOP.Training@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:CPOP.Training@health.wa.gov.au) if you have any ideas for topics you would like us to cover.

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## Practice reminders for pharmacists



- ### Pharmacists administering depot buprenorphine

Link to [Depot Buprenorphine Administration – Advice to Prescriber form](#) (Appendix 3 of the CPOP Guidelines for Depot Buprenorphine)

**Dosing incident reporting is a mandatory requirement under CPOP.**

In the event of a dosing error, inform the patient and immediately contact the prescriber to discuss action plan.

Dosing errors must be reported to the Department of Health by submitting pharmacy incident report form to CPP ([CPPAdmin@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:CPPAdmin@health.wa.gov.au)).

Links to pharmacy incident report forms:

- Pharmacy Incident Report
- Pharmacy Dosing Errors – Recommended Action Plan

**Reminder for pharmacists to check the original prescription prior to dosing**

Multiple incidents of dosing errors resulting from incorrectly entering dose details into dispensing software upon receipt of new prescription, and pharmacist not checking against original prescription at time of dispensing dose.

Similarly, incidents have occurred where a prescription has been dispensed past the end-date.

## Packaging and labelling requirements for takeaway doses

In addition to below packaging requirements under CPOP, all pharmacotherapy takeaway doses must be labelled in accordance with [Appendix L of the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons \(SUSMP\)](#).

**Methadone liquid:** Takeaway doses must be diluted to 100mL with water and dispensed in an appropriately labelled bottle with a child-resistant cap.

**Suboxone® buprenorphine film:** Takeaway doses are dispensed intact in the original foil wrapper in an appropriately labelled container.

**Subutex® buprenorphine tablets:** Takeaway doses are dispensed in original blister pack in an appropriately labelled container. Do NOT crush.



**Remind patients to securely store takeaway doses (e.g. in locked box), out of reach of children.**

## Pharmacist requirements for participation in CPOP

**EMHS: Community Program for Opioid Pharmacotherapy (CPOP) Pharmacist Training - eLearning**



Pharmacists are required to complete the CPOP Pharmacist online training **every 3 years** to participate in dispensing opioid substitution treatments. Pharmacists with overall responsibility must ensure all dispensing pharmacists meet this requirement.

For access to the training contact [CPOP.Training@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:CPOP.Training@health.wa.gov.au)

## Practice reminders for prescribers

### Change of dosing pharmacy

When a patient changes dosing pharmacies, written notification via a Pharmacy Transfer Notification form is required to be provided to:

- Previous dosing pharmacy
- New dosing pharmacy
- Community Pharmacotherapy Program ([CPPAdmin@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:CPPAdmin@health.wa.gov.au))

Link to [Pharmacy Transfer Notification form](#)

### TGA Adverse Event Reporting

### Prescribing Schedule 8 medicines for patients on the Register of Drugs of Addiction

*An Application for authorisation Opioids, Benzodiazepines and other Schedule 8 medicines* form is required to be submitted to the Department of Health prior to prescribing Schedule 8 medicines for a patient who is on the program.

Link to form [Application for authorisation Opioids, Benzodiazepines and other Schedule 8 medicines - Dec 2024 MP00005.5](#)

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CPP has recently been informed of patients experiencing local skin reactions after Buvidal® injection.

Clinicians are reminded to report suspected adverse reactions to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) using the Blue card reporting form. Link to form:

<https://www.tga.gov.au/sites/default/files/blue-card-adverse-reaction-reporting-form.pdf>

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For assistance with patient management issues, treatment information and transfers contact the **Community Pharmacotherapy Program (CPP)** on **9219 1907**.

Email: [CPPAdmin@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:CPPAdmin@health.wa.gov.au).

For 24hr clinical advice contact the **CPOP Advice and Support (CAS)** on **9442 5042** or 1800 688 847 (health professionals only).

If you wish to subscribe or unsubscribe from these updates please email [CPOP.Training@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:CPOP.Training@health.wa.gov.au)



Community Program  
FOR  
Opioid Pharmacotherapy

***Thank you for supporting the CPOP.***

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