

Fentanyl patch for opioid use disorder workshop: client, nurse, pharmacist, and prescriber perspectives on building a dynamic, collaborative, and adaptive program

Category: Workshop

Abstract Body

In the 7th year of the toxic drug supply crisis in BC, there is little to be hopeful about. There are now 7 deaths per day connected to the toxic drug supply. Over this period, fentanyl patch for opioid use disorder (OUD) has been piloted with notable success. People who use drugs (PWUD) are asking their prescribers about fentanyl patch and seeking out programs that deliver this novel intervention. This presentation is about the Hope to Health fentanyl patch program – listening to clients, learning from experiences, collaborating with other programs, reaching out to pharmacies, and adapting protocols have contributed to the success of the program. We will share our learnings and experiences as a client, a pharmacist, a nurse and a physician in the development and progression of our program, with the aim of assisting other teams to formulate and take action on their own plans.

By the end of the workshop, attendees will be able to:

- Relate the logic behind fentanyl patch as a tool for opioid use disorder treatment in a time of toxic illicit drugs
- Report the state of the evidence for fentanyl patch as a treatment option in opioid use disorder
- Recognize the frustration that PWUD are experiencing with current treatment approaches and the value of fentanyl patch as an added tool
- Describe the steps to launch a fentanyl patch program including staff training and pharmacy collaboration
- Appreciate the need for a larger network of fentanyl patch treatment programs and supportive pharmacies to help client's live autonomous, full lives
- Consider the steps they can take to start a fentanyl patch in their local context and the available resources to make this a reality

Key Words

- Caring in Crisis
- Opiate Agonist Therapy

- Opioids/Opiates
- Pharmacologic Interventions
- Pharmacology/Toxicology
- Primary Care
- Safe Supply
- Treatment Models/Programs

Learning Objective # 1

- Relate the logic behind fentanyl patch as a tool for opioid use disorder treatment in a time of toxic illicit drugs

Learning Objective # 2

- Consider the steps they can take to start a fentanyl patch in their local context and the available resources to make this a reality

Reference # 1

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Reference # 2

Pauly, B., McCall, J., Cameron, F., Stuart, H., Hobbs, H., Sullivan, G., Ranger, C., & Urbanoski, K. (2022). A concept mapping study of service user design of safer supply as an alternative to the illicit drug market. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 110, 103849. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2022.103849>; Fentanyl Patch. (n.d.). BCCSU. Retrieved April 28, 2023, from <https://www.bccsu.ca/clinical-care-guidance/prescribed-safer-supply/fentanyl-patch/>

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