

## **Acute pain relief in drug dependent patient undergoing acute surgery**

- All drug dependant patients should be assessed by the DDU
- Pain relief will be managed jointly
- DDU supervises Methadone and Buprenorphine replacement therapy
- APT manages opioids for severe pain

*Level 1:* Patient on stable methadone replacement therapy, well known to DDU

- Standard PCA suitable/ Continue methadone
- Follow sc protocol

*Level 2:* Not known to DDU.

- Started on 10mg Methadone BD,
- Assessed and followed up by DDU

Use subcutaneous morphine dose start on 10mg PRN via Y Can

For surgical procedures give methadone preoperative and use immediate release morphine for acute postoperative period

Patient discharged on Methadone and simple analgesics

### **Prescription guide**

- DO maintain methadone as long as possible
- DO keep methadone dose constant unless advised by DDU
- DO NOT prescribe DF118
- DO NOT prescribe Temgesic
- DO NOT prescribe oxycontin
- DO NOT prescribe im/iv/sc if oral route feasible