

Lessons learned from an injectable opioid agonist therapy (iOAT) program in British Columbia

PRESENTED BY

Amanda Giacomazzo, Moderator
Scott Elliott
Rosalind Baltzer Turje
Damon Hassan
Ora Sagmoen
Michael Bonneau

March 10th, 2020



Webinar Agenda (1 hour)

- Welcome and speaker introductions

Amanda Giacomazzo, 5 minutes

- Overview and information about the Dr. Peter Centre

Scott Elliott, 10 minutes

- Clinical and organizational lessons learned

Rosalind Baltzer Turje, 20 minutes

- Peer perspective on the Dr. Peter Centre iOAT program

Ora Sagmoen, 10 minutes

- Questions and discussion

All, 10 minutes

Scott Elliot

Scott joined as Executive Director of the Dr. Peter Centre in 2017 and has 30 years of experience in the non-profit sector. In his two and a half years at the Dr. Peter Centre, Scott has initiated an iOAT program as well as a Hepatitis C program. In 2019, Scott was elected to the Board of Directors of CATIE. Scott also sits on a variety of national committees related to STBBIs and is on the planning committee for the Stimulus 2020 conference.

Scott has served as Chief Executive Officer of imagine1day and has held leadership roles with the Vancouver Art Gallery, the Vancouver Aquarium, Philanthropic Solutions Inc., Arts Umbrella, Canada World Youth and the BC Persons with AIDS Society (now Positive Living).

Scott is motivated by a deep desire to make transformative change in the lives of people with HIV, mental illness, addiction, poverty, and complex medical needs.

Rosalind Baltzer Turje

Rosalind is Senior Director of Clinical Programs at the Dr. Peter Centre. She joined the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation in 2002 and manages a team of clinical and non-clinical staff. She has worked professionally in the field of mental health since 1980 as a clinician and administrator and was on faculty in the Psychiatric Nursing Department at Douglas College teaching in the diploma and advanced diploma programs. Rosalind Baltzer Turje has also worked as a consultant with health regions in service planning and evaluation and holds undergraduate degrees in Cell Biology and Nursing, as well as a Master's in Individual Psychology.

Ora Sagmoen

Ora was born and raised in Vancouver, BC. She has been active in the Downtown Eastside (DTES) for over 40 years. Over the last 10 years she has worked at Canada's first injection site working closely with people who are marginalized in multiple ways. Oralie joined the team at the Dr. Peter Centre in late 2019 to assist with the new iOAT program. She is assisting potential and existing clients bridge the gap when joining iOAT by sharing insight on what to expect.

When Ora is not working she enjoys distributing food to less fortunate people in the DTES by collecting and distributing donations from local restaurants in the area.

Damon Hassan

Damon is a registered nurse and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology along with a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing, both from the University of British Columbia. He has 13 years of experience working in the areas of addiction and harm reduction. He has previously worked for Vancouver Coastal Health psychiatry programs at Vancouver General Hospital and joined the Dr. Peter Centre in 2006. Damon is the nursing lead for the iOAT program at the Dr. Peter Centre and is responsible for the daily operations of the program.

Damon is a fan of comedy and makes sure to attend the Just for Laughs festival in Vancouver as often as possible.

Michael Bonneau

Michael is a current recipient of iOAT at the Dr. Peter Centre and was the second person to join the program. As a person with lived experience, Michael has been learning to live with aspects of substance use since he was a teenager. He is currently working in various jobs that are part of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside community and is in the process of starting a new workout routine as iOAT has given him free time during the day to do so.

Michael counts himself lucky to be both a participant and a peer worker at the Dr. Peter Centre. He likes spending his free time biking the trails of Stanley Park and spends about 95% of life with his 3 ½ pound Chihuahua.



Lessons Learned in the Planning and Implementation of iOAT in an Integrated Health Care Setting

Scott Elliot, Executive Director

Rosalind Baltzer Turje, Senior Director of Clinical Programs

Damon Hassan, Registered Nurse and iOAT Nursing Lead

Oralie Sagmoen, Peer Liaison

Michael Bonneau, Peer Liaison



Land Acknowledgement

The Dr. Peter Centre where this work is being done is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples – including the Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations.



Image sources: <https://www.squamish.net/>, <https://twnsacredtrust.ca/>, <https://www.musqueam.bc.ca/>

What is iOAT?

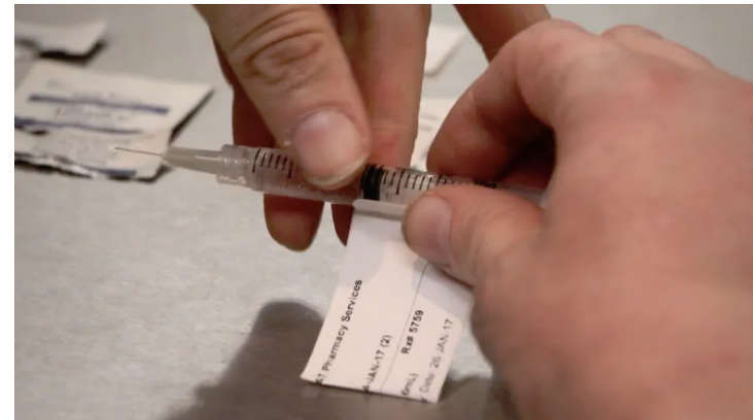
Injectable Opioid Agonist Treatment (iOAT) provides medically supervised pharmaceutical grade opioids for injection

Health Canada approves injectable hydromorphone to treat opioid addiction



Canada is first country to approve the pain drug for severe opioid use disorder, says Health Canada

 [Rafferty Baker](#) · CBC News · Posted: May 16, 2019 5:00 AM PT | Last Updated: May 16



Source: CBC News, Posting Date May 16, 2019

What we're **not** going to talk about

(But we can if you really want us to!)

- In-depth exploration of evidence-based research showing the positive impacts of iOAT

The Dr. Peter Centre

Holistic complex care

- HIV health care facility in Vancouver's West End
- Care and support for people living with HIV and other health and social challenges
- 18 years of Supervised Consumption Services:
 - 2002-2015 via Provincial scope of nursing practice
 - 2016-present via Federal exemption



One More Tool

Food & Nutrition

Wholesome nutrient-dense meals & dietary guidance for improved health.

Community Linkages

Housing advocacy & assistance with other social and medical services.

HIV Medication Maintenance

Treatment adherence support to suppress the virus & prevent new HIV transmissions.

Art & Music Therapy

Creative expression, self-awareness & communication skills development.

Social Participation

Social engagement, computer literacy, conflict resolution & a sense of belonging.

Counselling

Mental health, emotional wellness & addictions.

Complementary Therapy

Weekly activities, gardening, fitness, yoga & acupuncture.

Complex Nursing

Health stabilization, supervised injection, long-term support & compassionate end-of-life care.



Dr. Peter Centre iOAT Program

Project Title

“Overcoming barriers to iOAT: An implementation evaluation of iOAT in an integrated health care facility for health service organizations across Canada”

Project Duration

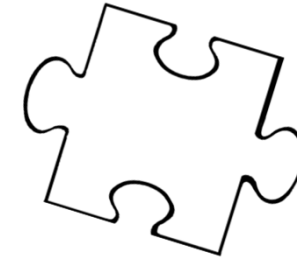
30 months

Funded through Health Canada’s Substance Use & Addictions Program (SUAP)

Top of Mind

- Opioid use disorder treatment
- Creating a new community model
- Challenges we have experienced

Lessons Learned – Planning



Organizational:

Have a clear understanding of how iOAT fits your organization, and recognize that timing and communication require careful consideration

- iOAT will impact the capacity of your organization as the program grows and people get involved with the treatment

iOAT Prescribers:

Important to find a ‘champion’ when setting up your iOAT delivery model

- Having an experienced iOAT prescriber who aligns well with organizational goals is important



Lessons Learned – Planning

Staffing resources:

Advanced planning for training of staff and required staffing levels is critical

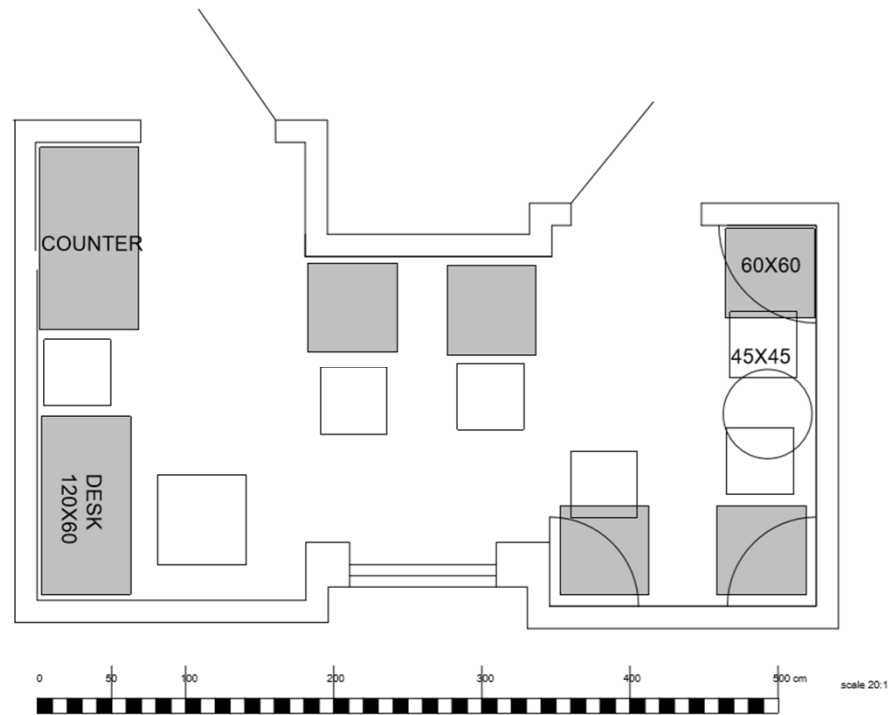
- Offering iOAT in an integrated setting means that there will be changes for staff
- Client engagement may increase (a positive point) but this has impact on staffing work load

Financial Constraints:

The treatment is expensive to offer

- Requires advanced knowledge and planning of cost pressures

Dr. Peter Centre iOAT Program – Floor Plan



Lessons Learned – Engaging Clients



Lessons Learned – Engaging Clients



Lessons Learned – Implementation

Pharmacy:

Ongoing communication and established partnerships are critical when dealing with the many considerations around hydromorphone

- Examples: delivery, drug supply, staffing/training (hospital vs. community), specific guidelines, and pricing

Program Evaluation:

Standardized processes and clear communication are important for accurate data management and tracking

Lessons Learned – Implementation

Documentation:

Many aspects to consider and electronic formatting is best to manage volume

- Build capacity for material creation / adaptation



Collaboration:

Building relationships with existing communities of practice are useful during implementation (and planning)

- Many care providers involved with this treatment

Nothing in isolation

- Overlap of various professional groups in treatment delivery → how do you collaborate?



Knowledge Translation To Date

- Undertake knowledge translation / exchange activities with organizations across Canada to support these organizations in pursuing implementing iOAT
- Suite of KT products (e.g. presentations, tip sheets, plain language fact sheets, etc.)
- Experiential learning opportunities for 36 health care professionals / policy makers
 - Shadow DPC staff as they provide iOAT

Peer Perspectives with Michael and Ora

- We are involved with the “hands on” iOAT team
 - Interact with participants at our “Ask me about iOAT” sessions
 - Attend the support group
- Doing the job that I wish had been around when I started iOAT

IOAT

do you want to know

who it is for?

what it stands for?

what it is for?

how to join?

ASK ME ABOUT IT !!!

WHERE:

UPSTAIRS AT THE ROUND TABLE

WHEN:

WEDNESDAY
10-11 am & 2-3 pm

MICHAEL B

ORA

SATURDAY
10 am - 12 pm

Peer Perspectives with Michael and Ora

- The Peer Liaison opportunity is an amazing way to bring people into the program
 - Would have been great to start the position earlier
 - Important to look at how and when you engage people
- Sharing about what the iOAT program has done for us is a way to spread awareness about the program and how it is set up at the Dr. Peter Centre

Acknowledgements

Project funding provided by Health Canada's Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP)

Presentation prepared by: Nigel Morgan, Knowledge Translation Officer at the Dr. Peter Centre

Thank you!

Questions?



Audience questions?

Please type your question or comment into the chat box.

Thank you

Please complete the webinar evaluation that will be provided following this webinar.

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