



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SYDNEY**

—  
Addiction Medicine

## **Opioid Treatment Accreditation Course & Fundamentals Training Course Information Guide**



The Opioid Treatment Accreditation Course (OTAC) and Fundamentals Training course aim to assist medical and nurse practitioners in the development of knowledge, skills, and practices to support the safe prescribing of opioid pharmacotherapies.

Completion of Fundamentals Training and the OTAC form the first part of the application process for practitioners to receive accreditation to prescribe opioid pharmacotherapies. Practitioners may also elect to undertake the Fundamentals Training course as a standalone program if they wish to remain as an unaccredited prescriber.

Medical and nurse practitioners will be eligible to undertake a half-day clinical placement with an addiction medicine or addiction psychiatry specialist to meet the requirements for accreditation. Applications for accreditation are submitted to, and considered solely by, the NSW Ministry of Health Pharmacotherapy Credentialing Subcommittee (PCS).

The courses are offered by the University of Sydney Discipline of Addiction Medicine, with funding from the NSW Ministry of Health.

To enrol, visit [www.otac.org.au](http://www.otac.org.au)

## Fundamentals Training

Designed as a short, online introductory program, the Fundamentals Training course is the first step towards accreditation. It covers basic content around the NSW Opioid Treatment Program (OTP), including the safe prescribing of pharmacotherapies, including methadone, buprenorphine and buprenorphine-naloxone.

Case studies and questions are embedded throughout the course to facilitate your learning and are complemented with relevant video content.

To enrol, visit [www.otac.org.au](http://www.otac.org.au)

## Opioid Treatment Accreditation Course

A full-day course covering content throughout all stages of patient treatment, from induction, to patient management, to cessation of treatment. The OTAC is the second requirement for medical and nurse practitioners seeking to become an accredited prescriber of opioid pharmacotherapies in accordance with the *Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 1966 (NSW)*.

Course content includes a focus on complex clinical presentations and the management of patients during treatment. Consumer perspectives relating to treatment are also highlighted.

A final examination is conducted at the end of the course, which is designed to gauge your understanding of important concepts around the prescribing of opioid pharmacotherapies.

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## For more information

The University of Sydney Discipline of Addiction Medicine

T +61 2 9515 9811

E [otac.info@sydney.edu.au](mailto:otac.info@sydney.edu.au)

W [www.otac.org.au](http://www.otac.org.au)

## Accreditation

Medical and nurse practitioners who successfully complete the OTAC can undertake a half-day clinical placement prior to submitting an application to become an accredited prescriber. Placements are undertaken with an approved addiction medicine or addiction psychiatry specialist.

The placements will assess performance around the clinical assessment and management of a patient in an opioid treatment setting.

Applications are to be submitted to the NSW Ministry of Health for consideration. The University of Sydney Discipline of Addiction Medicine does not have any role in considering accreditation applications.

## Enrolment

While the OTAC is designed to support medical and nurse practitioners to receive a formal accreditation to prescribe opioid pharmacotherapies, we welcome all to enrol in the Fundamentals Training course.

Non-prescribing individuals may be eligible to undertake the OTAC, however medical and nurse practitioners will be prioritised to receive entry into this course.

## Continuing Professional Development

Health practitioners may be eligible to receive continuing professional development (CPD) with a professional association to satisfy professional development requirements.

All participants who complete the course will receive a letter of completion. If required, additional documentation can be supplied to you to assist with this process.



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