

Simcoe Muskoka Drug Strategy-Expander Bar Updates

Increased Access to Opioid Agonist Therapies (OAT) – 2025 Updates

December 2025

Mia Brown, Co-Chair of the CPAC attended Dr. Poulin's presentation on regional collaboration among local hospitals regarding Suboxone initiation in the Emergency Department and Prescriber engagement, delivered at the *Issues of Substance* CCSA National Conference in Halifax. Dr. Poulin's work was very well received by attendees. An update on this collaborative initiative will be provided by Dr. Poulin at the next CPAC meeting.

October 2025

Exciting news for Dr. Ginette Poulin! Dr. Poulin will be reporting on the work done locally to support addiction care in acute care settings at the Issues of Substance - CCSA National Conference in Halifax this November. She will be providing an overview of the regional approach to supporting addiction care in a collective of acute care settings. This will include work done with local emergency departments across Simcoe County, including Georgian Bay General Hospital, Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre, Orillia Soldiers Memorial Hospital and Collingwood General and Marine Hospital.

A process and tools are being finalized to support primary care providers when implementing buprenorphine (suboxone) starts within emergency departments.

June 2025

The survey for primary care providers to identify barriers and gaps in providing OAT is complete and a report is pending.

Many new initiatives are on the horizon; more information will be shared over the coming months.

February 2025

Response to the survey for primary care providers has been good. There is still time to share feedback on the survey. The survey can be accessed at:

https://redcap.link/Primary_Care_OAT_Survey

Additional information and updates can also be found at: smdhu.org/simcoe-muskoka-drug-strategy.