



ORTICARE NEWS

MAY 2022

RACGP MATOD TRAINING

BENDIGO AUGUST 2022

DR. ADAM STRAUB

NEW AMS CLINIC IN
BALLARAT

ADVANCING PHARMACOTHERAPY WITH PRACTICE NURSES

UPCOMING EVENT

STATEWIDE CLINICAL NETWORK MEETING

GIPPSLAND



Orticare **SUCCESSFULLY** **ADVOCATES FOR ALCOHOL &** **OTHER DRUG NURSE** **PRACTITIONER FUNDING**

Orticare has been working with partners at Echuca Regional Health, Maryborough District Health Service, Bendigo Community Health Service, Sunraysia Community Health Service and Ballarat Community Health to advocate for funding of AOD NP positions at each service.

This week we learned that this advocacy has been successful. This will see the expansion of NP clinics at Bendigo and Ballarat and the establish of NP clinics in Echuca, Mildura and Maryborough. This will mean a significant improvement in access to treatment for people experiencing opioid use disorder across the Grampians Loddon Mallee.

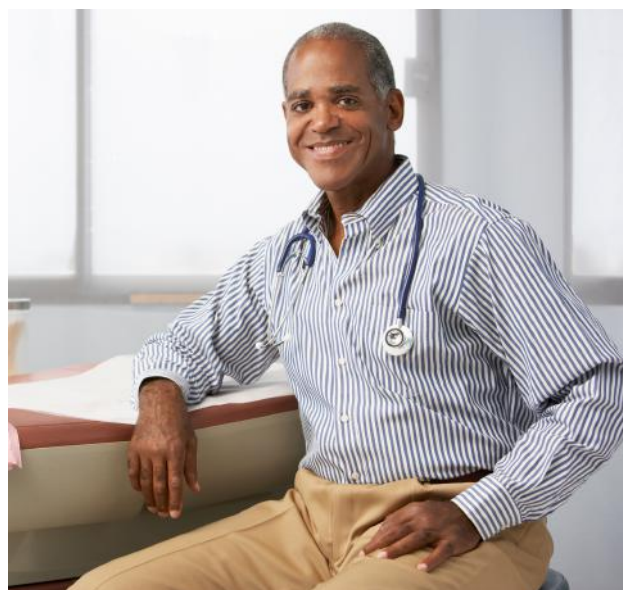
We thank all our partners for their contribution to this important piece of work.

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Visit

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Victorian Pharmacotherapy
Area-Based Networks Presents

Advancing Pharmacotherapy with Practice Nurses

Facilitated by Dr. Ferghal Armstrong

REGISTER NOW

About

This event aims to upskill General Practice nurses enabling them to take a more active role in the care of patients receiving opioid replacement therapy.

Session One Program

Substance Use in Australia

Dr. Ferghal Armstrong FRACGP, FACHAM

Long Term Stable Opioid Replacement Therapy

Dr. Greg Stewart, GP

Substance Use Disorder Treatment in Primary Healthcare

Brett Vallance, AOD Nurse Practitioner

When: Wednesday 1st June

Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Where: Online

Cost: FREE



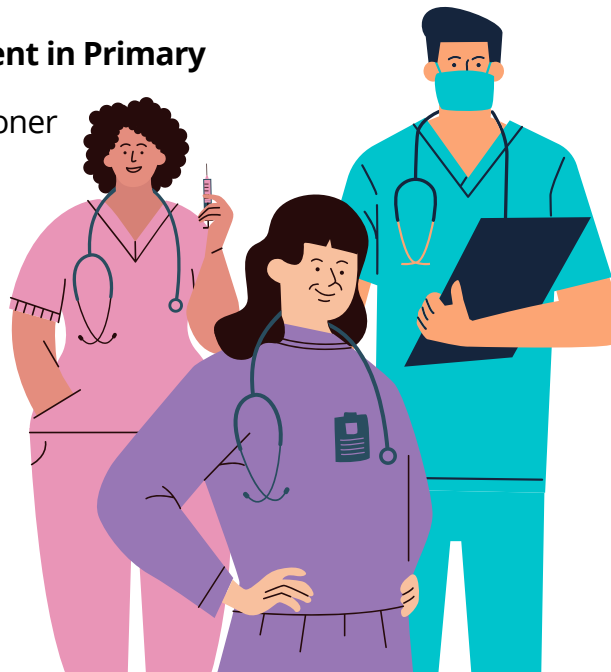
Dr. Ferghal Armstrong



Brett Vallance



Dr. Greg Stewart



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This event aims to upskill General Practice nurses enabling them to take a more active role in the care of patients receiving opioid replacement therapy.

Session Two Program

Opioid Pharmacotherapy Side Effects

Prof. Ed Ogden, PSM MA FRACGP FACHAM FFCFM(RCPA)

Harm Reduction

Craig Harvey, Harm Reduction Coordinator Barwon Health

The Role of the Practice Nurse in OAT

Kerryn Menhennet, Practice Nurse

When: Wednesday 22nd June

Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Where: Online

Cost: FREE



Prof. Ed Ogden



Craig Harvey



Kerryn Menhennet

ORTICARE LAIB ROADSHOW

roadshow

AIM

The aim of the LAIB Roadshow was to increase practitioner's knowledge of the LAIB dose form and associated pharmacotherapy policy addendum. It is our hope that this will translate into more LAIB prescribers as well as more practice nurses and pharmacists administering the injection. In effect to ease the load on pharmacotherapy prescribers.

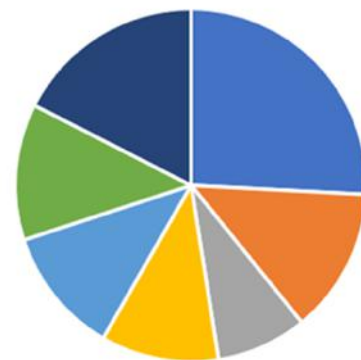
ATTENDEES

MATOD prescribers with little or no experience of LAIB, pharmacists and practice nurses were invited to attend the LAIB Roadshow.

Events were held in Swan Hill, Kyneton, Ballarat, Bendigo, Echuca, Mildura and Horsham.

Of 167 registrants, 119 attended the events - equal to a 72% attendance rate. Of those who attended, 26 were medical practitioners, 25 nurses, 11 nurse practitioners, 37 pharmacists, 1 practice manager and 20 identified as other e.g managers, counsellors

Attendees



■ Bendigo ■ Ballarat ■ Echuca ■ Swan Hill ■ Kyneton ■ Mildura ■ Horsham

% of attendees



■ Pharmacists ■ Medical Professionals ■ Nurses incl. NPs ■ Other

REPORT

FORMAT

Each event consisted of a screening of the Orticare pharmacotherapy short film, an overview of the Pharmacotherapy Policy Addendum, and a presentation from drug companies; Indivior and Camurus.

Attendees heard presentations from key speakers Dr. Adam Straub AMS, Dr. Paul McCartney AMS, Dr. Ed Ogden AMS, Brett Vallance and Cam Cail AOD NPs, Leighlan Phillips AOD NP candidate and Emma Mackley AOD Non-Resi Withdrawal Nurse. Having local guest speakers enabled the attendees to gain local context and access advice and insights as to the landscape of each area.

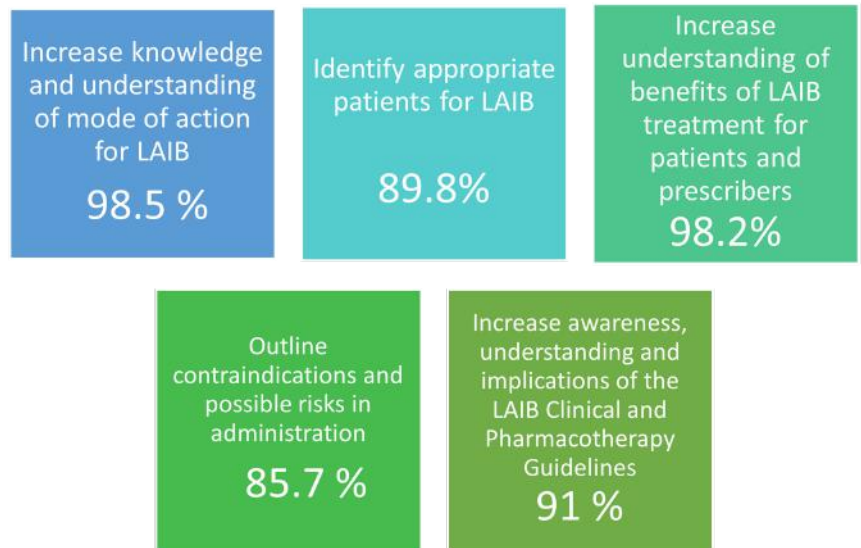
FINDINGS

The events were well attended and feedback for each speaker was very positive. Attendees were excited to learn of our new regional AMS, Dr. Adam Straub at Grampians Health Services, the Ballarat event provided them with an opportunity to connect with Dr. Straub.

The use of case studies was highlighted as a particularly valuable way to learn of the impact of LAIB on patients and indeed the prescribers, dispensers and the healthcare system in general.

It was noted in feedback that attendees received detailed information about dosing and the movement of patients from other forms of ORT to LAIB and this was of particular interest.

Reps from Indivior and Camurus had the opportunity to briefly speak to their products and this was noted of being of value by those attending. The Orticare team had strict speaker protocols in place to ensure that time was adhered to and this was something that the team had learnt from previous events. Attendees enjoyed being able to easily understand the differences between the two products and several commented that they found value in the tips around administration of LAIB



Percentages of learning outcomes met

“ Knowledge sharing of participants from so many professions was fabulous ”

-LAIB ROADSHOW ATTENDEE

STATEWIDE CLINICAL NETWORK MEETING



save the date

Tuesday 19th July
7:00pm-8:30pm

HIGH RISK OPIOID MANAGEMENT

The next Statewide Clinical Network meeting will be held online and hosted by Gippsland Pharmacotherapy Area-Based Network.

Facilitated by Dr. Ferghal Armstrong

Topics for the evening are as follows:

- Boundaries in clinical practice
- High risk GP prescribing
- High dose opioid transfers to MATOD

More information including registration links will be available in the coming weeks.



Dr. Ferghal Armstrong
FRACGP, FACHAM



Dr. Thileepan Naren
GP, AMS trainee and co-chair of
RACGP AOD committee



Dr. Anne Saunders
GP and co-chair of RACGP
AOD committee



RACGP MATOD TRAINING



RACGP

RACGP MATOD Module 2B Facilitated by Dr. Paul Grinzi

The aim of this workshop is to provide practitioners with the skills and confidence to assess, manage and initiate patients on Opioid Replacement Therapy.

Successful completion of Module 2-part A and part B is accredited for 40 Category 1 QI&CPD points for the 2020-22 triennium.

Only available to practitioners in Grampians and Loddon Mallee.

When: Saturday 27th August 2022
Time: Morning TBC
**Where: Hotel Shamrock, cnr
Pall Mall & Williamson Street Bendigo**

Registration details will be sent out in the coming weeks

Basic Life Support (BLS) for GPs will be offered to GPs following the training event. Details to be confirmed closer to the date

The entire RACGP MATOD training package is also available online via the RACGP website.

Please contact MATOD Program Coordinator if you don't have an RACGP number on 03 8699 0468 or vic.matod@racgp.org.au





ORTICARE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE

Due to chronic pharmacotherapy prescriber shortage, Orticare is trialling a MATOD workforce development payment for GPs and Nurse Practitioners in the Grampians Loddon Mallee regions. This payment will be paid to those prescribers who complete the MATOD virtual program and who go on to prescribe pharmacotherapy.

- **\$250** on completion of RACGP MATOD Module 2 Part B training.
- **\$750** when you have commenced MATOD prescribing and have 3 or more pharmacotherapy permits.

PLEASE NOTE: *if you are already a Suboxone prescriber, this would be an additional 3 permits.*

- We encourage you to consider including at least one methadone permit.

PLEASE NOTE: the Workforce Development Payment is only available until June. Please ensure invoices have been submitted prior to June 30th 2022.

An invoice template will be emailed to you on completion of Module 2 Part B. Please return the invoice with your details included to accounts@bhc.org.au to receive your payments.



BALLARAT COMMUNITY HEALTH ADDICTION MEDICINE SPECIALIST CLINIC

Dr. Adam Straub

B . S c (C H e m) H o n (W V U) , M B B S (M e l b) , F A C h A M

Dr. Adam Straub, Addiction Medicine Specialist and Senior Medical Registrar at Ballarat Health Services, graduated from The University of Melbourne in 2008 and focused his early career in critical care medicine.

After working with Victoria Police and spending many years working in Emergency Departments, Adam developed a great interest in Addiction Medicine, identifying a patient group that would benefit from a more comprehensive model of care. Through this, Adam is able to interact with a broad patient group and support their care throughout the hospital. He is a strong advocate for opioid agonist therapy and harm minimisation education. Adam completed advanced training in Addiction Medicine through St. Vincent's Hospital Melbourne and Ballarat Health Services. .

Adam is actively involved in continuous professional development and medical education, supporting medical students and colleagues across all disciplines of medicine, nursing and pharmacotherapy care

Commencing **Thursday 7th July** from 1:15pm-5:15pm up until and including Thursday 4th of August. From there the clinic will change days to Friday afternoons from the 12th of August.

Appointments will be by referral only with a specific focus on clients experiencing Opioid Use Disorder. Detailed information will be available soon.

" I look forward to the start of this new clinic with Orticare, which will deliver much needed specialist support to western Victoria. Regional practitioners treating patients with opioid use disorder will have access to a local secondary consult, enabling more complex treatment strategies and discussion of overall patient care. This clinic aims to facilitate collaboration between practitioners to deliver improved health outcomes for patients in western Victoria."

Victorian Opioid Management

ECHO

Project ECHO enables Primary Care practitioners throughout Victoria to access specialist knowledge and support in opioid management.

We are using ECHO to bring specialist knowledge and support in opioid management to Primary Care practitioners throughout Victoria. We aim to cover all aspects of opioid management in Primary Care, including prescription and illicit opioid misuse/abuse and addiction, opioids and addiction in chronic pain management, medication assisted treatments for opioid use disorder (MAT, MATOD, methadone, buprenorphine), overdose, regulations and opioid prescribing, trauma-informed care, dual-diagnosis.

The heart of the ECHO model is its hub-and-spoke knowledge-sharing networks, led by expert teams who use multi-point videoconferencing to conduct virtual clinics with community providers. In this way, primary care doctors, nurses, and other clinicians learn to provide excellent specialty care to patients in their own communities.

Case presentation and discussion

Case presentations by participating GPs and other health practitioners are a cornerstone of the ECHO model. Presentations are always followed by an open Q&A and discussion, with takeaway recommendations by our specialist team.

To submit a case for presentation, please [download the template](#). Ensure you complete all sections and that you completely de-identify the material. Send completed submissions to echo@pabn.org.au

Sessions run every Wednesday morning from 7:30am - 8:30am.

To get started with ECHO, register now and we'll send you an email with all the information you need to join a session.

[Register](#)



Rural Addiction Medicine Pharmacotherapy Specialist Service

RAMPS is an Addiction Medicine Specialist service available exclusively to health care professionals within the Grampians Loddon Mallee area.

The RAMPS service can provide expert secondary consultations for cases where:

- There is concern about a patient's opioid dependence - including patients with chronic pain conditions
- The patient may be suitable for or is currently on opioid replacement therapy (pharmacotherapy)
- There are other/multiple concerns about a patient's alcohol or drug misuse
- Expert advice is required regarding a medical withdrawal.

Appointments are available each Monday at 3:00pm.

To book a RAMPS appointment download the referral form via the button below. Email completed referral forms to ramps@bchc.org.au

For more information please call Kate Davenport on 5338 9164.

[Referral Form](#)

From July 2022, Dr. Adam Straub will be replacing St. Vincent's Hospital as our new RAMPS provider.

Primary and secondary consults along with case conferencing will be available to healthcare professionals in the Grampians Loddon Mallee regions.

Detailed information regarding the changes to RAMPS will be distributed in the coming weeks.

We would like to thank St. Vincent's Hospital Addiction Medicine Specialists for offering their time and expertise to the RAMPS service.



ST VINCENT'S
HOSPITAL
MELBOURNE

VOPP TRAINING FOR PHARMACISTS



Pharmaceutical Society of Australia Victorian Opioid Pharmacotherapy Program

The aim of this training is to provide pharmacists and pharmacy support staff with the relevant knowledge, skills and tools required to identify those who would benefit from pharmacotherapy, engage in a discussion of the benefits of the program in a non-stigmatising manner and deliver a safe and consumer focused Opioid Replacement Therapy service in their pharmacy. This is a Victorian State Government funded program and is FREE to all pharmacists and pharmacy staff in Victoria.

Long-acting injectable buprenorphine (LAIB) administration by pharmacists module

This training module will provide you with the relevant knowledge, skills and tools required to administer long-acting injectable buprenorphine in a safe and client-focused environment.

[Learn More](#)



ARTICLES OF INTEREST



[MORE >](#)

ECSTASY & RELATED DRUGS REPORT VIC 2021

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) is an illicit drug monitoring system which has been conducted in all states and territories of Australia since 2003, and forms part of Drug Trends.

In 2021, we have provided a suite of products with the most up-to-date findings from interviews conducted annually from 2003 to 2021 with a cross-sectional sentinel group of people who regularly use ecstasy and other stimulants recruited from all capital cities of Australia.

[MORE >](#)

QUANTIFYING THE SOCIAL COSTS OF PHARMACEUTICAL OPIOID MISUSE & ILLICIT OPIOID USE TO AUSTRALIA IN 2015/16

The objective of this report was to estimate the social costs arising from extra-medical opioid use in Australia for the financial year 2015/16.



[MORE >](#)

OFFERING BUPRENORPHINE TO PEOPLE WITH OPIOID USE DISORDER IN JAIL MAY REDUCE RE-ARREST & RE-CONVICTION

A study conducted in two rural Massachusetts jails found that people with opioid use disorder who were incarcerated and received a medication approved to treat opioid use disorder, known as buprenorphine, were less likely to face rearrest and reconviction after release than those who did not receive the medication.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

PBS Subsidised TAKE HOME NALOXONE Pilot

“ Well it felt good for me ... saving somebody's life. ...Overdoses shouldn't happen because it's preventable.

From December 2019, the Australian Government funded a Take Home Naloxone (THN) Pilot subsidised through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

This allowed people at risk of experiencing or witnessing an opioid overdose or adverse reaction to access naloxone without cost, without a prescription and from a variety of settings in NSW, SA, and WA.

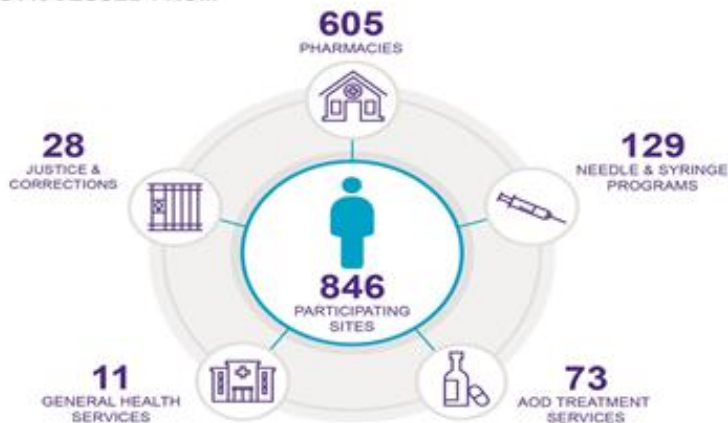
[MORE >](#)

FINAL EVALUATION REPORT: EVALUATION OF THE PBS SUBSIDISED TAKE-HOME NALOXONE PILOT

DURING THE PILOT...



THN WAS ACCESSED FROM



The Australian Government contracted the University of Queensland, Institute for Social Science research to undertake an evaluation of the take home naloxone pilot. The report presents the final evaluation findings. It covers the pilot in NSW, SA and WA from commencement on 1 December 2019 until 30 June 2021.

[MORE >](#)

CHILDHOOD TRAUMA ASSOCIATED WITH INCREASED RISK OF OPIOID USE DISORDER (OUD) AMONG PEOPLE PRESCRIBED OPIOIDS FOR CHRONIC NON-CANCER PAIN

To reduce the likelihood of opioid use disorder (OUD) among people prescribed opioids for chronic non-cancer pain (CNCP), it is important to identify individual risk factors for OUD among this population. However, until now, little has been known about the relationship between a childhood trauma and OUD risk among people prescribed opioids for CNCP.

USEFUL LINKS



VICTORIAN PHARMACOTHERAPY AREA-BASED NETWORKS

Support for health professionals to prevent, identify and manage opioid dependence

Victorian Department of Health Pharmacotherapy Standards to ensure consistent best and safe clinical practice in treating opioid dependent patients

Pharmacotherapy Advocacy and Mediation Support Service (PAMS) Telephone-based information, support, advocacy and referral for pharmacotherapy clients

Drug and Alcohol Clinical Advisory Service (DACAS) 24 hour specialist telephone consultancy service

Directline Drug and alcohol counselling and referral

Reconnexion Safe tranquilliser use and support to prevent dependence, anxiety and depression

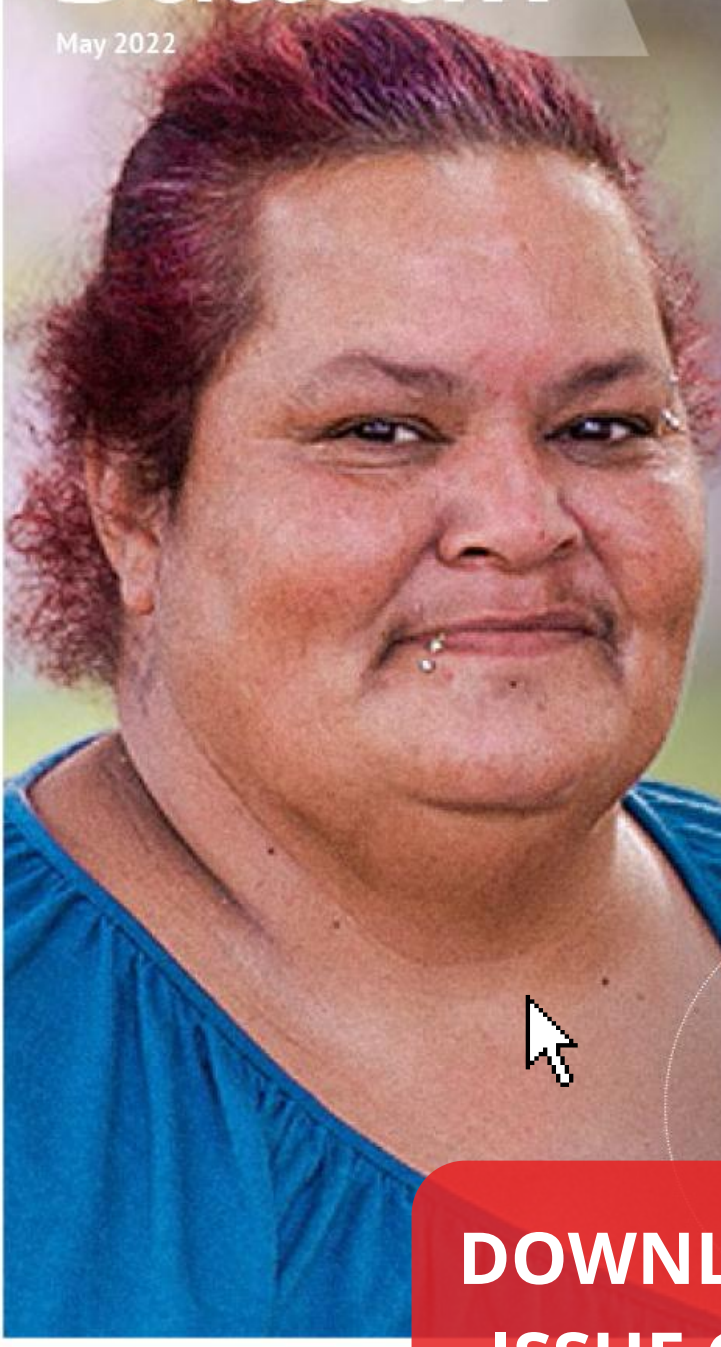
University of Liverpool Hep Drug Interactions Free, comprehensive and user friendly drug interaction charts

Pennington Institute The Bulletin is a specialty publication for frontline workers in Australia's Needle and Syringe Programs (NSP)

Meducate Provides online education for doctors, clinicians, health professionals and the public

The Bulletin

May 2022



STANDOVER TACTICS:

HOW TREATMENT
CAN BE HIJACKED BY
COERCIVE CONTROL

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STANDING FIRM:

PHARMACOTHERAPY USE
STABLE AS CLIENTS AGE

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HARM REDUCTION
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Q&A WITH
DONNA GARCIA:
HEPATITIS C;
IT'S NOT JUST

ABOUT INJECTING

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