

People starting methadone have higher risk of overdose but remain on treatment for longer, compared to buprenorphine

Among people starting Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT), those starting buprenorphine/naloxone:



↑ 43%

were more likely to stop treatment



↓ 50%

were less likely to have an opioid overdose while on treatment



↑ 2.3x

were more likely to receive take-home doses



↓ 27%

had lower rate of healthcare interactions for opioid use disorder

compared to those starting on methadone within the first year of treatment



On average, people starting **methadone** stayed in treatment for **9** months vs. **3** months among those starting **buprenorphine/naloxone**



Overdose rates were **4-10x** higher in the month after stopping treatment regardless of OAT type

For more information

Gomes, T., McCormack, D., Bozinoff, N., Tadrous, M., Antoniou, T., Munro, C., Campbell, T., Paterson, M., Mamdani, M., & Sproule, B. (2022). [Duration of use and outcomes among people with opioid use disorder initiating methadone and buprenorphine in Ontario: A population-based propensity-score matched cohort study](#). *Addiction*.