



PATIENT INFORMATION

Storing Methadone/Buprenorphine/Naltrexone safely at home



Methadone and other drugs should always be stored safely locked away in the home.

Keep medicines and tablets out of the reach of children- use a lockable medicine box or a locked cupboard and keep keys somewhere that children cannot access.

Child resistant bottle caps are not child proof, even younger children are capable of opening child resistant bottle tops.

It **is not safe** to keep medication, especially methadone, in a fridge, food cupboard, drawer, bedside cabinet, wardrobe etc.

Children are also at risk from illicit drugs, alcohol and needles/syringes in the home. All of these items should be stored **securely out of children's reach**.

Dangers of methadone

As little as 10mls of methadone could kill a child. This is only a couple of small mouthfuls of the green sweet liquid, which can seem attractive to a child. Most methadone overdose deaths happen when people take someone else's methadone. **Don't sell or give your methadone away.**

If you are in substance use treatment with Walnut Lodge or Shrublands House you will receive a lockable storage box.

What to do in someone ingests or overdoses

If anyone – especially a child- takes methadone which is not prescribed to them **dial 999 immediately**. You cannot reverse the effects of methadone without medical treatment.