

AIVL Member Organisations

Canberra Alliance for Harm
Minimisation and Advocacy
(CAHMA) - (02) 6253 3643

Harm Reduction Victoria (HRVic) -
(03) 9329 1500

Hepatitis South Australia Clean
Needle Peer Projects -
(08) 8362 8443 OR 1800 437 222

NSW Users and AIDS Association
(NUAA) - (02) 8354 7300 OR
1800 644 413

Northern Territory AIDS & Hepatitis
Council (NTAHC) - (08) 8944 7777

Peer Based Harm Reduction WA -
(08) 9325 8387

Queensland Injectors Health
Network (QuIHN) - (07) 3620 8111
OR 1800 172 076

Queensland Injectors Voice for
Advocacy and Action (QuIVAA) -
(07) 3620 8111

Tasmanian Users Health and
Support League (TUHSL) -
0498 580 645



What you need to know about...

New buprenorphine (bupe) depot products

Where are they available? What are they?

- New Opioid Maintenance Treatment (OMT) options are now available in Australia.
- These products provide a slow-release of buprenorphine - either weekly or monthly injections.

Why might you be interested?

- If you live in a rural, regional or remote area where OMT is difficult to access.
- If you find daily dosing or frequent clinic/pharmacy attendance difficult.
- If you travel a lot and this makes dosing or carrying prescription medications difficult.

What else might you want to know?

- The product info says you will not get any effects from opioids if you use on top of the monthly product option however, you may get some effect from opioids if you use on top of the lowest dose weekly product option.
- It's injected under the skin by a medical professional only (can't inject yourself).

If this sounds like something you might be interested in, talk to your doctor to get more info about how this may or may not be a good option for you.

Here are some questions you might want to ask your doctor to help you decide:

- Will I feel different on these medications compared to my current OMT?
- How do my other drugs (prescribed and/or non-prescribed) react with these products and what are the side effects?
- How much will the injections cost and how often would I need to have them?
- Is there any difference between the different brands of depot products available?
- How do I get started or switch from my current OMT?
- Do I have any monitoring visits once the depot is injected?
- What happens if I am in an accident or need to have surgery and require my pain to be treated?
- How would I change to something else if it doesn't work for me?
- Can I use these products if I am pregnant?