

The Basics of Methadone Treatment

The [rise in opiate abuse](#) increases the need for effective treatment. Some health care experts state that methadone treatment is the most successful option for opiate users.

This form of treatment is often referred to as methadone maintenance treatment. The dose and length of treatment are frequently debated in the health care community.

What Is Methadone Treatment?

Methadone is a synthetic substance that blocks [opioid receptors](#) in the brain. These receptors are what cause opiates like heroin and painkillers to produce a 'feel good' sensation.

When methadone is used for treatment, opiate users will not experience the high they usually get from their drug of choice. Methadone also works in the brain to decrease urges to use, which in turn helps prevent relapse from occurring.

How Do Opioid Addicts Benefit From Methadone Treatment?

The use of methadone can help recovering opiate addicts function normally on a day to day basis. The substance [does not cause euphoria](#), nor does it cause intense drowsiness like opiates.

This is a huge factor in helping addicts get back to functioning normally. Methadone is also used once per day, so recovering individuals do not have to constantly seek relief throughout the day.

The Risks Of Methadone Treatment

While methadone is very beneficial for many recovering addicts, there is some [controversy and debate](#) regarding the substance.

Health care experts have varying opinions on the dosage that should be administered and how long methadone treatment should last.

Many methadone clinics adhere to a general standard of dosage and treatment length. This helps patients for a set amount of time and allows them to beat withdrawal and face long-term recovery.

Is Methadone Treatment Right For Me?

There is no 'one size fits all' treatment for opioid addiction. Some recovering addicts find success with methadone treatment. Others benefit from long-term inpatient rehabilitation services.