Re: DOC Contact Form Andrew Johnson

From Rathje, Jen <jen.rathje1@iowa.gov>
To Andrew Johnson <a@johnson.org>
Date 2025-05-02 11:27

HSP-615 Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder.pdf (~64 KB)

Hi Andrew - Here is the information requested. I also replied to the records request submitted through the state records site with the same information. We hope the information is helpful.

Please find the attached policy HSP-615 Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder.

The excerpt below is from our policy (HSP-615) around the use of medications for treating opioid use disorder. In summary, Suboxone films are only administered in health services areas in our prisons and the procedure detailed below is to help prevent diversion - it can be successful if followed closely (pre administration mouth check, placing the films, waiting for the film to dissolve and doing another mouth check, and then swishing and swallowing water *after* the film has dissolved).

Policy Excerpt (Iowa Department of Corrections Health Services Policy 615):

A. Dispensing of Medications

1. Methadone and Buprenorphine products are controlled substances and per DOC policy will only be dispensed from observed medication pill lines.

a. To be administered in health services under direct observation unless otherwise approved by nursing administration or designee.

b. Patient shall follow all directives of nursing and or security regarding administration procedure.

c. Suboxone films

i. Patient to drink water

ii. Nurse to complete thorough mouth check

iii. Patient to place film under the tongue and nurse to complete mouth check to ensure film placed correctly.

iv. Patient to place hands on the counter if standing or sit with hands in direct view of nursing or sit on hands.

v. Spot check to ensure film is under the tongue, minimum of one time while film is dissolving shall be completed.

vi. After the film is dissolved, patient to swish and swallow water, mouth check completed.

vii. Remain in health services for an additional 5 minutes, patient is to again swish water around in mouth and swallow. Complete a final mouth check.

On Tue, Apr 29, 2025 at 7:30 PM Andrew Johnson <a@johnson.org> wrote: