



MIH - Opioid Withdrawal

EMS Medical Director:

Signature on File

EMS Administrator:

Signature on File

Assess Opioid Withdrawal Signs and Symptoms:

Objective Signs:

- Tachycardia
- Diaphoresis
- Restlessness and/or agitation
- Dilated pupils
- Rhinorrhea or lacrimation
- Vomiting, diarrhea
- Yawning
- Piloerection

Subjective Symptoms:

- Nausea
- Stomach / abdominal cramps
- Body aches
- Achy bones / joints
- Restlessness
- Hot and Cold
- Nasal congestion

Signs or Symptoms Present

Assess for Exclusion Criteria:

- Under 18 years of age
- Pregnant
- Any methadone use within last 10 days
- Altered mental status and unable to give consent
- Severe medical illness (sepsis, respiratory distress, etc.)
- Current intoxication or recent use of benzodiazepine, alcohol, or other intoxicants suspected
- No clinical opioid use disorder symptoms
- Unable to comprehend potential risks and benefits for any reason
- Not a candidate for buprenorphine treatment for any reason

No

Yes

P	Provide supportive treatment and counseling
	Assess patient interest in buprenorphine

COWS ≥ 7 (Clinical Opioid Withdrawal Scale)

Not eligible for prehospital treatment
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Patient agrees to treatment

P	Contact MIH for buprenorphine administration
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MIH in Person or Telemed Treatment

If Symptoms Resolve

MIH	Offer Discharge on Scene
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Yes

P	Prescribe 1 week of suboxone
	Refer to SUN from patient's hospital
	OR, if patient prefers, offer next week follow up at SANE and send referral to SANE
	Provide Naloxone leave behind kit

Patient denies treatment

P	Provide medication for addiction treatment (MAT) brochure
	Provide naloxone
	Offer transport

Patient Declines Transport

Patient Accepts Transport

Discharge on Scene

P	Recommend transport to ED or designated overdose receiving center
	Verify patient contact information
	Inform the patient that the hospital's navigator will initiate contact within 72 hours to offer additional treatment

Adult Medical Treatment Guidelines

Notes: MIH in Person or Telemed Treatment:

1. Verify COWS and exclusion criteria
2. Titrate suboxone to eliminate withdrawal symptoms with 8 mg every 20 min ad needed for a maximum of 24 mg

