



Summary of steps in the induction of extended-release buprenorphine (Sublocade®)

BEFORE START OF TREATMENT

- Check for contraindications and drug interactions.
- Confirm the treatment plan.
- Ensure that the medication is available at the person's pharmacy.
- Take the training on how to administer Sublocade®.
- Send a copy of your certification along with the prescription to the person's community pharmacy.
- Complete the RAMQ request.
- Obtain the person's free and informed consent (present the tool "Making an Informed Choice of OAT Medication").

THE DAY OF THE INJECTION

Before administering the medication

- Take the medication out and apply ice to the injection site for 15 minutes before the injection.
- Open the package in front of the person. If the person has brought their own medication, ensure that the storage instructions have been followed.
- Change the 19G needle for a 20G needle if that seems clinically preferable.
- Ask the person which position they would like to take.
- Inform the person that the injection must be administered slowly and is a bit painful.



After administering the medication

- Explain to the person that the depot should not be played with, and that it will disappear about 2 months after the injection.
- Remind the person of the side effects to watch for, including injection site complications and withdrawal symptoms.
- Agree on follow-up arrangements with the person, including a call within the first few days of the injection.
- Plan the date of the next injection and inform the pharmacy.