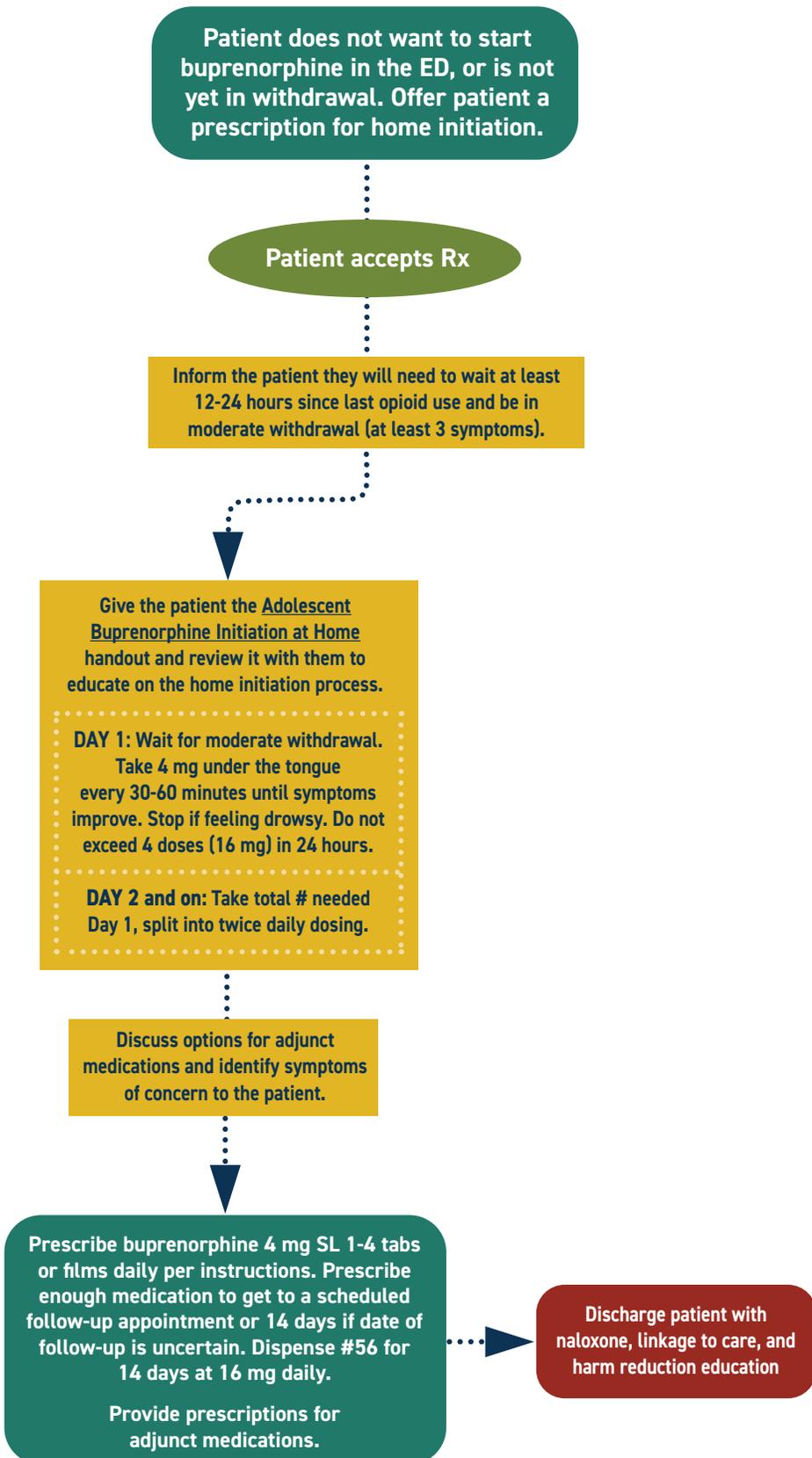


Adolescent Buprenorphine Initiation at Home (Ages 13+)



Considerations

Buprenorphine is FDA approved for ages 16 and older. Its use in those under 16 is off label but widely considered safe and effective.

In Washington State, patients 13 or older can be treated for substance use disorder without parent/guardian notification or consent.

Consider expert consultation for complicating factors:

- Allergy or sensitivity
- Severe respiratory compromise
- Chronic use of long-acting opioids (e.g., methadone or Oxycontin®)
- Pregnancy

Inform patient about the risk of precipitated withdrawal.

Consider screening for HIV, HCV, STIs, and mental health comorbidities.

Program partners

This document is not meant to be directive, comprehensive, or a substitute for independent clinical judgement and does not constitute legal, medical, or organizational advice.