

Naltrexone protocol

This should occur at the Addiction unit whenever this is possible.

All patients should be booked into the naltrexone clinic and should have had their treatment discussed with them by their key worker.

At the naltrexone clinic all patients should see a doctor and have the treatment including side effects and interactions discussed with them before signing the consent form.

Bloods should be taken for baseline LFTs.

Patients should have been opiate free which means for:-

Methadone	10 days
Heroin	4 days
DF 118	4 days

- Naloxone challenge of 1.2mg is administered and patients requested to wait for a minimum of one hour preferably 1½ hours.
- If withdrawal symptoms are mild (ssa score of <5) then naltrexone 25mg can be given and commenced on 50mg daily from the following day.
- If withdrawal symptoms are severe do not give naltrexone and repeat the following day.