


## Methadone Maintenance Treatment: Increasing Capacity Utilizing A Community-Based Approach

Mark Erdelyan  
Betty-Lou Kristy




### Presentation Overview

- Background- History - MMT Community Development
- Methadone Maintenance Treatment Practices Task Force
- CAMH OpiATE Project
- Community Engagement Strategy
- Community Working Group – Activities
- Impact of People with Lived Experience
- Community Engagement Strategies – Impact & Barriers
- Future Directions




### Presentation Objectives

- Value of community collaboration and partnerships in planning MMT services
- Impact of people with lived experience in promoting acceptance of MMT
- Impact and barriers within the development of community-based MMT services




### History of CAMH Involvement in MMT Community Development

- 1996 – Began planning to develop and expand MMT services in 4 communities
- 1999 - Expanded to 7 communities across the province
- 2000 – Methadone Maintenance Treatment: A Community Planning Guide




### Methadone Maintenance Treatment Practices Task Force

- April 2006 – Task Force struck - collected information – community consultations
- March 2007 – Report released with 26 recommendations



### Methadone Maintenance Treatment Practices Task Force - Highlights

- Development of a provincial strategy to ensure equitable access across the province –
  - Health promotion and prevention strategies
  - Treatment programs
  - Enforcement activities for public safety
  - Harm reduction messages
- Greater awareness of MMT and more intensive engagement of communities in development of MMT services

 Methadone Maintenance Treatment Practices Task Force – One Time Funding


- Recruitment of physicians, expanding training and professional supports, best practice guides for professionals
- Enforcement of best practice guidelines and quality assurance initiatives related to MMT
- Increase public awareness of MMT and issues related to opioid dependence
- Revise MMT community planning guide

 Methadone Maintenance Treatment Practices Task Force – One Time Funding - Partners

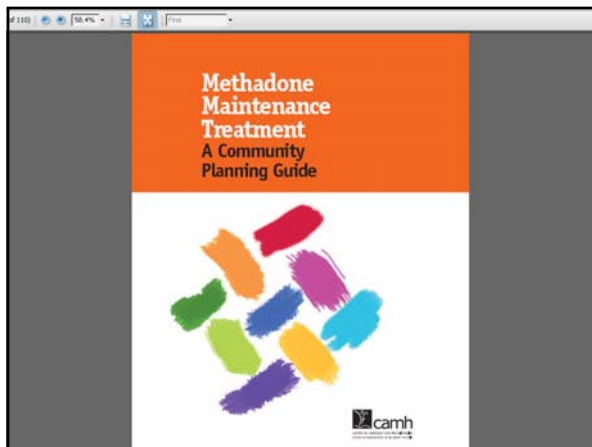
- Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO)
- Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO)
- Ontario Pharmacists' Association (OPA)


 CAMH OpiATE Project Strategies

- Expanding Training and Professional Supports
- Raising Awareness
- Community Engagement

 Community Engagement Activities

- Development/Expansion of MMT in Selected Target Communities
- Revisions and Additions to “Methadone Maintenance Treatment: A Community Planning Guide”



 Selection of Target Communities - Rationale

- Fall 2007 – Community scan in collaboration with community partners
- Criteria:
  - Local MMT needs
  - Community readiness
  - Coalition support
  - Community resources
  - Planning opportunities

**camh**  
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

### OpiATE Project Target Communities

- Chatham-Kent
- Halton Region
- Ottawa
- Thunder Bay

**camh**  
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

### Community Engagement Objectives

- Reduce stigma and marginalization of addiction clients
- Promote collaborative and coordinated models of care
- Improve community and clinician acceptance of various treatment options

**camh**  
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

### Community Engagement Strategies

- Formation of community working groups
- Development of action plans/models
- Awareness events for professionals and public – Raising Awareness Strategy

**camh**  
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

### Community-Based Approach in MMT

- Past history and experience in MMT community development
- MMT Task Force Report
- Openness
- Collaboration
- Awareness strategy – key link
- Community Working Group input around local plans

**camh**  
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

Methadone saves mothers, fathers, daughters, sons, aunts, uncles, husbands, wives, cousins, teammates, neighbours, co-workers. Lives.

Public    Professionals

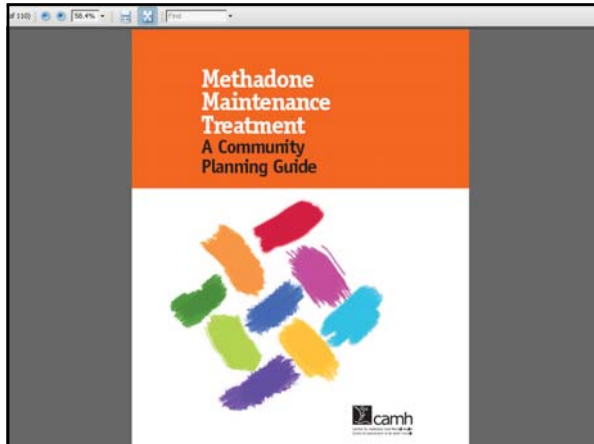
**camh**  
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health


Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)  
Ontario Programme of Community Mental Health and Addiction Programs  
The Support Care Group, Thunder Bay

**Prescription for Addiction**  
SHORT VERSION  
a compelling documentary about dependency and addiction to prescription opioid drugs  
produced by the Yorks Charitable Foundation

"Someone once said I did not want to be on anything that was addictive. They said, "So long as you are not addicted, that's fine, you can't become addicted. You aren't home if you're not with them." I was on methadone, and they became my dependent. The problem is here. People are dying. People are breaking into..."





 MMT Community Development Guide - Components


- About MMT
- Getting ready
- Establishing a community working group
- Engaging the community
- Developing a MMT program
- Implementing the program
- Evaluating the program
- Resources

 Community Engagement – Barriers Encountered

- Lack of funds to support community plans and models
  - Clinic site
  - Staffing – Case Management
- Physician recruitment

 Future Directions in MMT Community Development

- Heightened awareness of this important issue within target communities and across the province
- Community Working Groups continue to meet to discuss how to promote their plans and models

 Methadone Maintenance Treatment: Increasing Capacity Utilizing A Community-Based Approach

- Question and Answer

THANK YOU

 Centre for Addiction and Mental Health  
Centre de recherche en santé mentale