

ACCREDITATION

Required Organizational Practice (ROP) of the Month

LIMITING HIGH CONCENTRATION & HIGH TOTAL DOSE OPIOID FORMULATIONS

- The **Required Organizational Practice (ROP)** implements risk mitigation strategies to limit availability and access to high-concentration and high-total-dose opioid formulations.
- **High-concentration and high-total-dose opioids** increase risk of harm due to their potency, total amount in package, and frequent calculation and dilution steps before formulation is administered.
- The availability of opioid products is evaluated and limited to ensure that formats with potential to cause patient safety incidents are not stocked in patient service areas.

Examples of High-Total-Dose Opioid Formulations:

- fentanyl total dose greater than 100 mcg
- HYDROmorphine total dose greater than 2 mg
- morphine total dose greater than 15 mg per formulation in adult care and 2 mg in pediatric care
- Opioid infusion bags and cassettes

Examples of High-Concentration Opioid Formulations

- HYDROmorphine 50mg/mL vials
- morphine 50 mg/mL vials
- methadone 10mg/mL oral concentrate

AT HEALTH PEI:

- Health PEI has a provincial ***Narcotics and Controlled Drugs Policy***.
- Specific narcotics that require an independent double check are identified and outlined in the ***Independent Double Check for High-Alert Medication Policy***.
- **Audits of high dose format narcotics** in patient services areas and pharmacy departments are conducted on a regular basis.
- Audit results are **reviewed by the Medication Management Quality Improvement Team** with recommendations being identified and implemented as needed.
- For more information on Opioid safety: [Opioid Safety Video-Staff Resource Center](#).

Questions Surveyors May Ask Staff:

Are any high-concentration or high-dose-opioids stocked on your unit? If so, what is the specific reason for having them available in your area?

How do you access additional information, if needed, to help safe administration of high-concentration opioids?

How do you minimize the risk associated with administering opioids?