

Drug Enforcement Administration
Diversion Control Division
Civil Unrest Emergency Guidance Document

Title: Civil Unrest Q&A Narcotic Treatment Program Offsite Dosing Options

Question: Our Narcotic Treatment Program (NTP) is located in an area of civil unrest and clients are unable to get to the clinic for dosing. What are our options for dosing at alternate locations?

Answer: While not necessarily an exhaustive list, the following are a few suggested options for providing doses to NTP patients during civil unrest:

1. An NTP may coordinate with another NTP for guest dosing. To do so, the NTP may refer patients to another NTP for dosing.
2. At this time, under the COVID-19 public health emergency, DEA is permitting NTPs to repeatedly use the same alternate location to deliver take-home methadone doses to their patients without separately registering that location with DEA. Off-site location delivery of methadone is only available for patients who are authorized to take home doses of methadone to use on their own and is not available for patients who must have individual doses of methadone administered or dispensed directly to them by the OTP each day. For additional information please see [the DEA guidance document on registered NTPs dispensing methadone](#) during the public health emergency. DEA is also permitting NTPs to regularly use the same off-site location to deliver take-home buprenorphine doses to their patients without separately registering that location with DEA during the public health emergency. For additional information on providing take-home buprenorphine doses, please see [the DEA guidance document on registered NTPs dispensing buprenorphine](#). The delivery of take-home methadone and buprenorphine doses through off-site unregistered locations is subject to the conditions and limitations described in the DEA guidance documents at the links above.
3. An NTP may also authorize an NTP staff member, law enforcement officer, or National Guard personnel to make doorstep deliveries of take-home doses of methadone or buprenorphine in an approved lock-box, as allowed by another exception granted by DEA during this public health emergency. Please see [the letter announcing this exception on DEA's website](#). Delivery of take-home doses in this manner is subject to the conditions and limitations described in that letter.

Your state's opioid treatment authority may impose additional requirements; please consult with your state's opioid treatment authority to ensure your actions are compliant with both state and federal law. Please contact your [local DEA Field Office](#) for assistance with any of these activities.

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