

Northern Territory of Australia

*Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2012*

**Exemption From Requirement to Hold Schedule 8 Authorisation –  
Patient Transfers to and from Correctional Centres**

I, Hugh Crosbie Heggie, Chief Health Officer:

- (a) under section 245(1)(a), (4)(b) and (5) of the *Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2012* and with reference to section 43 of the *Interpretation Act 1978*, revoke the exemption from the requirement to hold a Schedule 8 authorisation made by instrument entitled "Exemption from Requirement to Hold Schedule 8 Authorisation – Patient Transfers to and from Custodial Correctional Facilities" dated 26 September 2018 and published in *Gazette* No. S79, of 1 October 2018; and
- (b) under section 245(1)(a), (4)(b) and (5) of the *Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2012*, exempt each class of authorised health practitioner specified in the Schedule, Part A, from the requirement to hold a Schedule 8 authorisation for dealing with a restricted Schedule 8 substance specified in the Schedule, Part B, for the purpose of treating an addiction to a substance, subject to the conditions specified in the Schedule, Part C.

Dated 24 June 2020

H. C. Heggie  
Chief Health Officer

*Note*

*The instrument entitled "Revocation of Declaration and Declaration of Restricted Schedule 8 Substances" dated 2 March 2020 and published in Gazette No. G10 of 11 March 2020 declares each Schedule 8 substance specified in the Schedule, Part B, to be a restricted Schedule 8 substance.*

## Schedule

### Part A

- 1 Authorised health practitioners holding a Schedule 8 authorisation to prescribe opioid substitution treatments on the conditions set out in Part 4 of the code of practice entitled "Code of Practice – Schedule 8 Substances" and made on 14 November 2019 (*accredited practitioners*).
- 2 Authorised health practitioners (*CC practitioners*):
  - (a) holding a Schedule 8 authorisation to prescribe opioid substitution treatments on the conditions set out in Part 4 of the code of practice entitled "Code of Practice – Schedule 8 Substances" and made on 14 November 2019; and
  - (b) engaged by a correctional centre, as defined in section 4 of the *Correctional Services Act 2014*.

### Part B

- 1 Buprenorphine in tablet form 0.4mg, 2mg or 8mg for sublingual administration.
- 2 Buprenorphine in injectable depot formulations.
- 3 Buprenorphine /Naloxone formulations in film form for sublingual or buccal administration.
- 4 Methadone in liquid form 5mg/mL for oral administration.

### Part C

- 1 An accredited practitioner may prescribe a restricted Schedule 8 substance specified in Part B to a person if:
  - (a) the person is being transferred from the care of a CC practitioner to the care of the accredited practitioner; and
  - (b) prior to being transferred the person was being treated with the restricted Schedule 8 substance for substance addiction by the CC practitioner; and

- (c) the accredited practitioner prescribes the restricted Schedule 8 substance as follows:
    - (i) if the substance is a substance specified in Part B item 1, 3 or 4 – the accredited practitioner must prescribe the substance in the same dosage regimen prescribed by the CC practitioner to the person for a period of not more than 14 days; or
    - (ii) if the substance is a substance specified in Part B item 2 – the accredited practitioner may prescribe one further injection to be administered within 56 days after the person's most recently administered injection.
- 2 A CC practitioner may prescribe a restricted Schedule 8 substance specified in Part B to a person if:
- (a) the person is being transferred from the care of an accredited practitioner to the care of the CC practitioner; and
  - (b) prior to being transferred the person was being treated with the restricted Schedule 8 substance for substance addiction by the accredited practitioner; and
  - (c) the CC practitioner prescribes the substance as follows:
    - (i) if the substance is a substance specified in Part B item 1, 3 or 4 – the CC practitioner must prescribe the substance in the same dosage regimen prescribed by the accredited practitioner to the person for a period of not more than 14 days; or
    - (ii) if the substance is a substance specified in Part B item 2 – the CC practitioner may prescribe one further injection to be administered within 56 days after the person's most recently administered injection.