



## Northern Health Palliative Care

### Opioid Prescribing and Management in Palliative Care

New symptom management guidelines are available from the BC Centre for Palliative Care: [Opioid Prescribing and Management in Palliative Care](#), released January 2025.



Highlights include:

- ☑ Opioid risk assessment, including screening tool and example of opioid treatment agreement
- ☑ Managing opioid adverse effects, including administering naloxone in a palliative context
- ☑ Steps for titrating and rotating opioids
- ☑ Fentanyl transdermal patch considerations and how to initiate
- ☑ Guidance for safe prescribing in people with opioid use disorder (OUD)

For assistance with opioid prescribing or managing complex palliative symptoms, contact the Northern Health Palliative Care Consultation Team at [Palliative.Care.Consult.Team@northernhealth.ca](mailto:Palliative.Care.Consult.Team@northernhealth.ca) or call the consultation line at 250-645-3791

BC Centre for Palliative Care (2019). B.C. Inter-professional palliative symptom management guidelines.