

Long-acting Injectable Buprenorphine (LAIB) webinar with Kevin Street

We spoke to Kevin Street about long-acting injectable buprenorphine.

Kevin is currently a member of several consumer advisory groups for organisations including NADA, Kirkton Rd Centre, the Medically Supervised Injecting Centre and the Ministry of Health. He's part of a steering committee to encourage GPs and pharmacists to prescribe and dispense LAIB. He's also a peer worker at the NUAA NSP.

Kevin is a volunteer with the Uniting Fair Treatment Campaign and he's supporting the development of training modules for AOD nursing students through the University of Technology in Sydney.

Kevin is a passionate advocate for decriminalisation of personal possession and use of all drugs.

Key messages:

- Choice in treatment is paramount for people who are accessing OTP and LAIB in particular
- Some people will choose to remain on methadone to maintain the social connection of daily clinic visits; some will prefer the monthly depot option
- Be aware of lifestyle changes that are necessary to make the change, there may be a gap to be filled that was previously taken up by daily visits where people can connect with friends.
- Consider being part of consumer engagement committees or peer work roles
- Social connection is important
- Do your own research, try and find some people you know who are on LAIB to see what their experiences are
- Encourage GPs and pharmacists to start thinking about prescribing opioid treatment
- Do what we can to reduce stigma around prescribing