Maine Medical Center
Department of Emergency Medicine
Buprenorphine Induction from the ED

Potential Patient Identified

- Opioid Risk Tool Completion
  Nursing, Provider, Care Manager
  - COWS Assessment
  Nursing

Engage Social Work/Care Manager for Clearance
- Assess readiness for treatment
- Confirm appropriate follow-up available
- Confirm patient has ride and identification
- Sign release and scan into chart
- Check PMP for bup rx within last 30 days

If Care Manager Unavailable
- Treat at physician discretion
- Keep patient in ED until Care Manager available to complete clearance evaluation

Does Not Meet Induction Criteria
- Assess for other needs (medication, referral, etc.)

COWS < 8
- Reassess in 1-2 hours

COWS > 8
- ED Induction
  Buprenorphine/naloxone 4mg/1mg x 1 dose
  If pregnant:
  Buprenorphine only 4mg only
  Repeat doses q 1-2 hours to max 12mg buprenorphine
  Reassess in 1-2 hours

COWS < 8
- Does not meet criteria for bridge script
- Assess for other needs (medication, referral, etc.)

COWS > 8
- Waivered physician

- Prescription written

Prior to DC, confirm follow up in place

Last time of use prior to buprenorphine:
- Morphine: 8-12 hours
- Heroin: 12-24 hours
- Oxycodone and hydrocodone: 12-24 hours
- Oxymorphone: 24-30 hours
- Methadone: 36 hours to a week