

Unofficial translation

Minister of Social Affairs

Regulation

Tallinn
March 18, 1998
No 20

On providing the drug users (DUs) with maintenance and detoxification treatment in various phases

According to the Law on Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances (RT I 1997, 52, 834) Article 11 Section 1, Law on Psychiatric Help (RT I 1997, 16, 260) Article 6 Section 2 and Law on Health Administration (RT I 1994, 10, 133; 1995, 57, 978; 1997, 86, 1462) Article 7 Section 2, Article 19 Section 1 and 4, the Minister of Social Affairs states:

1. the verification of the “Provision of the drug users (DUs with maintenance and detoxification treatment in various phases” (attached)
2. that the following of the present regulation will be carried out by the county medical officer
3. that the present regulation enters into effect on September 1, 1998.

Tiiu Aro
Minister of Social Affairs

Jaan Rütman
Chancellor

Providing the drug users (DUs) with maintenance and detoxification treatment in various phases

1. Only the doctors or medical institutions with psychiatric licence can provide the opiate injecting DUs with maintenance and detoxification treatment with opiate-containing medicines that are registered in Estonia.
2. Detoxification treatment with opiate-containing medicine
 - 2.1. Detoxification treatment with opiate-containing medicines can be started in a hospital which has a psychiatric licence of the 3rd phase, and which guarantees special conditions for maintenance treatment of opiate injecting DUs: separate unit or room, respectively trained personnel, observation regime.
 - 2.2. Detoxification treatment with opiate-containing medicines can be continued dispensary by a doctor or medical institution with psychiatric licence from the 7th treatment day on the basis of a special letter for the hospital which started the treatment.
 - 2.3. Dispensary detoxification treatment with opiate-containing medicines will be absorbed orally during the presence of a doctor or a nurse in a separate room which is designed to so that it guarantees the safety of the personnel and excludes the possibility that the medicine may fall into somebody else's hand.
 - 2.4. A doctor or medical institution which continues the detoxification treatment is obliged to send an epicrisis (a summary of patient's illness and treatment) to the hospital which had started the treatment after the end of the detoxification treatment.
3. Maintenance treatment with opiate-containing medicines
 - 3.1. Maintenance treatment with opiate-containing medicines can be started according to the conditions set forth in the present regulation section 2.1 in a respective hospital and can be continued dispensary, whereas the starting of the maintenance treatment requires a decision by two psychiatrists.
 - 3.2. Manager of a medical institution will send the list of clients on the maintenance treatment to the county medical officer by the first date of each month.
 - 3.3. In continuing the dispensary treatment, opiate-containing medicines will be absorbed orally during the presence of a doctor or a nurse in a separate room which is designed to so that it guarantees the safety of the personnel and excludes the possibility that the medicine may fall into somebody else's hand.
 - 3.4. In continuing the maintenance treatment, a decision by two psychiatrist is needed after every six months.
4. Maintenance and detoxification treatment with opiate-containing medicines can be provided only together with the methods of psychological and social rehabilitation foreseeing the maintenance treatment with opiate-containing medicines as an ultimate option in the psychiatric assistance to the opiate injecting DUs.