



## SESSION 143

# Introduction to Management of Opioid Use Disorder

We are in the midst of an opioid epidemic that is causing countless preventable deaths. You almost certainly have patients in your practice who are opioid-addicted or are demonstrating “red flags” for opioid abuse. Many of our rural and remote patients cannot access Addictions Clinics. Family physicians are ideally situated to identify and manage patients with OUD – referral to addictions specialists is rarely needed. This workshop will get you started with the basic skills and knowledge you need to treat OUD in a low resource setting.

1. List the key criteria for diagnosis of OUD.
2. Define “pseudoaddiction”.
3. Describe the basic pharmacology of buprenorphine/naloxone (bup/nlx), its mechanism of action, and safety profile.
4. Outline the approach to bup/nlx induction and the key elements of ongoing follow-up.
5. Describe the process for establishing a treatment program in communities that do not have a pharmacy or on-site pharmacist.