PRIMARY CARE In-Office Initiation

ILLINOIS HELPLINE
for Opioids & Other Substances

In-Office Initiation

Pre-Initiation

MAR Provider

Review entire initiation process, educate on the **COWS**, and emphasize need to be in withdrawal tomorrow.

Co-develop plan to help patient refrain from using that night and provide naloxone.

Start

Nurse

Take patient's vitals and administer **COWS**.

MAR Provider

If **COWS** >12, administer 4 mg buprenorphine.

After 1 hour, administer another 4 mg dose every hour until COWS <5.

After 2 hrs

MAR Provider

Once **COWS** <5, give 4 mg dose to take home that night should withdrawal symptoms return.
(Day 1 Max = 16 mg)

Nurse

Discharge patient with 8 mg bup. AM & 4-8 mg bup PM (based on **SOWS**) for next 2 days.

Set up appt. in 3 days.