

Addiction Medicine Program

Through a team of physicians, nurses, pharmacists and therapists, the Addiction Medicine Program offers medically supervised services in the areas of addiction medicine, nicotine dependence and withdrawal management. The program also provides education and training for professionals interested in learning more about addiction medicine.

Addiction Medicine Service (AMS)

Offers services for people with opiate dependence and for people who have medical problems directly caused by substance use. Offers withdrawal management under medical supervision for people going through a withdrawal process from addictive substances including alcohol, cocaine, opioids (including heroin and codeine), benzodiazepines and barbiturates. This is a confidential service provided free-of-charge for Ontario residents. The Addiction Medicine Service consultation, assessment and treatment planning with access to a range of support groups and treatment options.

Hepatology Clinic

A Centre hepatologist provides consultation, treatment and referrals for people diagnosed with both substance abuse or dependence and Hepatitis C.

Referral required: Physician referral.

Contact: (416) 535-8501, ext. 6128 to book an assessment, or ext. 6019 for more information.

Location: ARF site, 1st floor

Medical Ambulatory Withdrawal Management

(Alcohol, Opiates & Benzodiazapines)

For clients who require medication to manage withdrawal symptoms from alcohol, opiates and benzodiazapines. Clients are assessed on site and physicians prescribe medications accordingly. Indications for medically assisted withdrawal include: pregnancy, history of seizures, cardiac history, chronic pain, or underlying psychiatric concerns. Clients requiring medical withdrawal may be treated on an outpatient basis or, with more complicated withdrawal, may be referred for inpatient medical withdrawal.

Referral required: No. Clients assessed through General Assessment.

Contact: (416) 535-8501, ext. 6128 to book an assessment, or ext. 6019 for more information.

Location: ARF site, 1st floor

Methadone Maintenance Treatment

Clients who are diagnosed as opiate dependent may be prescribed methadone to treat the addiction. Those in this program have a dedicated physician to provide medical care and a therapist to provide therapy and case management. The program involves daily dispensing of methadone and supervised drug screens. Clients can develop and pursue an individualized treatment plan including setting goals around the reduction or cessation of use of opioids or other drugs in collaboration with their physician, therapist and other members of the multi-disciplinary team.

Referral required: No. Clients assessed through General Assessment.

Contact: (416) 535-8501, ext. 6128 to book an assessment, or ext. 6019 for more information.

Location: ARF site, 1st floor

Nicotine Dependence Clinic

Offers service to smokers and tobacco users who want to quit or reduce their tobacco use. Also provides specialized treatment services for smokers who have other psychiatric or addiction conditions; provides services to special populations such as pregnant women; provides education to staff and clients about smoking; trains healthcare professionals in the treatment of smoking; and conducts research on smoking treatment methods.

Referral required: No.

Contact: (416) 535-8501, ext. 6128 to book an assessment, or ext. 6019 for more information.

Location: ARF site, 1st floor. Donwood site, 3rd floor Queen Street site, Unit 2, 5th floor

Pharmacotherapy

Clients who have a goal of abstinence from alcohol and require medical assistance to achieve this goal may be prescribed medication such as disulfiram or naltrexone.

Referral required: No. Clients assessed through General Assessment.

Contact: (416) 535-8501, ext. 6128 to book an assessment, or ext. 6019 for more information.

Location: ARF site, 1st floor

Pregnancy and Substance Dependence

In conjunction with St. Joseph's Health Centre, physicians provide consultation regarding neonatal and prenatal care and labour and delivery for pregnant women who abuse a wide range of substances including heroin. Physicians also provide prenatal care, treatment for partners, treatment planning, follow-up and referrals.

Referral required: No.

Contact: (416) 535-8501, ext. 6128 to book an assessment, or ext. 6019 for more information.

Location: ARF site, 1st floor

Withdrawal Management Service

Offers medical and psychosocial withdrawal management services in a motivational and supportive environment. After intake, clients are expected to attend all-week day group sessions that promote positive lifestyle changes and provide information about substance abuse. Facilitated by staff. Twelve step meetings in-house Monday to Friday.

Referral required: No.

Admission hours: 24 hours a day, seven days a week, pending bed availability

Contact: (416) 535-8501, ext. 7296 or 7297

or (416) 583-1338

Location: 501 Queen Street West, Main Floor

Medical Withdrawal Management Service

Withdrawal services for clients who require an inpatient setting and 24-hour nursing and medical care to withdraw from their substance of abuse. Services are offered to clients who have severe withdrawal symptoms including seizures and hallucinations. Clients are expected to attend and participate in daily nurse/client groups facilitated by registered staff and attend twice-weekly arts and crafts sessions. For safety reasons, once admitted, clients are not allowed to leave the premises. See below * for more information.

Referral required: Yes, (medical preferred). Referral forms can be obtained from (416) 535-8501, ext. 7062, and can be returned by fax to (416) 425-9031.

Admission hours: 8 am. to 2 pm. Mondays to Fridays; no admission on weekends or public holidays.

Contact: Medical Unit (416) 535-8501, ext. 7052

Physician (416) 535-8501, ext. 7072

Location: Donwood site, 175 Brentcliffe Road, 3rd floor

Psychosocial Withdrawal Management

Provides non-medical withdrawal care in a motivational environment. Provides assessment, treatment, information on lifestyle changes, information on substances and ongoing support. Provides groups offered by nursing staff on medication, nutrition and common health problems. During the intake phase clients are monitored closely to track progress and/or to highlight any physical or emotional concerns. The post intake phase consists of a psychoeducational group, conducted each weekday morning, to inform clients about substance abuse and treatment options. See below * for more information.

Referral required: No. The Case Worker conducts an initial screening to determine if the person should be admitted or channelled through the community withdrawal management service in their own home environment.

Contact: (416) 535-8501, ext. 7296 or 7297
or (416) 583-1338

Location: 501 Queen Street West

* Both the 501 Withdrawal Management Services and Donwood Site provide management of withdrawal from addictive substances including: alcohol, cocaine, opioids (such as heroin or codeine), benzodiazepines and barbituates. Some of the services we offer include one-to-one client care, withdrawal services for pregnant women, and transition to treatment programs. Clients of the withdrawal management services must be able to walk and care for their own activities of daily living/basic needs. The Medical Unit is wheelchair accessible. Our services are confidential.