

# Excerpts from our Patient Handbook

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## **SEGTC's Position Regarding Children in the Clinic Environment:**

Southeastern Georgia Treatment Center does not encourage bringing children to the clinic during dosing hours. If it is absolutely necessary, however, to bring children to the clinic, **DO NOT LEAVE THE CHILDREN IN THE CAR**. Children should accompany you and be within your immediate vision and control ***at all times***.

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## **CAUTIONS REGARDING METHADONE:**

Each patient is responsible for keeping his/her medication(s) in a secure, childproof place. **Methadone and other medications are potentially dangerous if misused.** *Your dosage would most likely be **FATAL** to a child or an adult with intolerance.* It could be fatal if mixed with alcohol, barbiturates, oxycodone, certain sedatives, Valium, or other medications.

**DO NOT give any of your medicine to others, and NEVER, NEVER leave methadone where children can get it!**

Symptoms of **METHADONE OVERDOSE** may include, but are not limited to, air hunger and/or shortness of breath, sedation, confusion, seizures, nervousness or restlessness, dizziness, sleepiness, or weakness. If you suspect a methadone overdose, call 911, the National Poison Control Center at **1-800-222-1222**, or the Georgia Poison Center at **(800) 282-5846**. (In Georgia, an **emergency number for the deaf** is: 706-861-9261). The **ANTIDOTE** for methadone overdose is NARCAN, which should be administered by a physician until the methadone is removed from your system.

1. Tell the physician or nurse at Southeast Georgia Treatment Center if you:
    - a) Have allergies
    - b) Are breast-feeding
    - c) Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant
    - d) Are taking any other medicine, including over the counter medications
    - e) Have any other medical problems
  
  2. Take methadone EXACTLY the way the physician or nurse has instructed and follow the cautions below.

Do not drink alcohol or take other medications that make you sleepy.
  
  3. If you miss a dose of methadone, take it as soon as you remember; however, if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose. **DO NOT DOUBLE IT!**
  
  4. Do not drive a vehicle or use other machinery if the medication makes you sleepy or dizzy, or you experience any other side effects that would prohibit optimum performance on the equipment. **If you drive or have a job that requires good reflexes or precision, your**
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