

Dr James O'Toole

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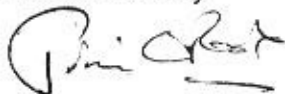
29th January 2007

Dear _____

I am writing to let you know that I was very impressed and intrigued by the treatment you gave to one of the methadone patients I see. He reduced his methadone dose from eighty milligrams daily to zero in a matter of days. This does happen occasionally for a number of reasons but what was interesting, in this case, was that he felt fine apparently during this process. He told me that he felt better and was sleeping better during his rapid methadone reduction. Most heroin users have problems sleeping, and certainly tend to have sleeping problems during detoxification along with a number of very unpleasant symptoms. I would expect a rapid reduction in methadone to precipitate a withdrawal syndrome with prominent symptoms including agitation, musculoskeletal pain and abdominal cramps.

It is difficult for me to explain scientifically why _____ should have a significant impact on the opiate withdrawal syndrome. Any treatment, however, that makes patients feel more comfortable during detoxification is worth a closer look. I would be keen to speak to some of your other patients about their experience. Perhaps I could visit your clinic in Manchester? Hopefully it will be possible in the future to carry out properly conducted trials on this treatment method.

Yours sincerely



Dr James O'Toole