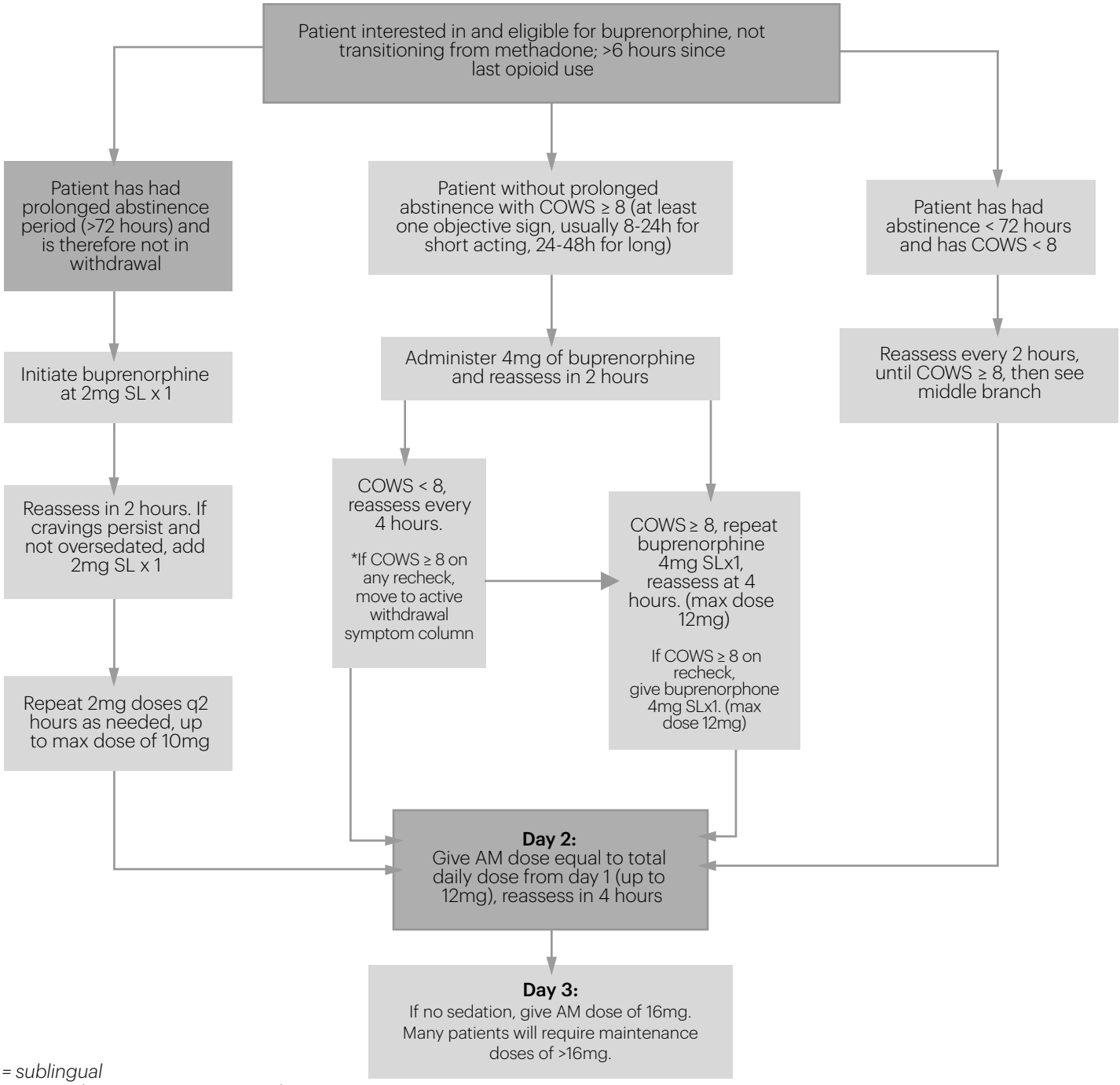
Inpatient Management of Opioid Use Disorder: Buprenorphine/Naloxone

Seton | ASCENSION

The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School

Buprenorphine Induction Algorithm



SL = sublingual
***Day 1 max dose may surpass 12mg by provider order, up to max dose of 16mg.*

The COWS form is available on the intranet under:
Clinical > Clinical Practice > Buprenorphine Team > Inductions.

- Document COWS score and evaluate for sedation at each check.
- With each check, consider increasing dose if cravings or withdrawal are present. Decrease if sedation or RR < 8 is present. The goal is for patient to have no sedation, but also no cravings or withdrawal on their final dose.
- Most patients should be discharged on >16mg and may ultimately need to be titrated to higher doses in the outpatient setting.

For questions or concerns, please TigerText the Buprenorphine Team.

Version 5. Revised 1/10/2019.