# **Goals decided with patient:**

	•	
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		

# **Overdose Risk**

### **Provider Factors**

- -Incomplete assessments
- -Rapid titration
- -Combining opioids and sedating drugs
- -Failure to monitor dosing
- -Insufficient information given to patient and/or relatives

### **Patient Factors**

- Elderly
- On benzodiazepines
- Renal impairment
- Hepatic impairment
- COPD
- Sleep apnea
- Sleep disorders
- Cognitive impairment

## **Opioid Factors**

- -Codeine & Tramadol lower risk
- -CR formulations higher doses than IR

### Prevention

- -Assess for Risk Factors
- -Educate patients /families about risks & prevention

- -Start low, titrate gradually, monitor frequently
- --Careful with benzodiazepines
- -Higher risk of overdose reduce initial dose by 50%; titrate gradually
- -Avoid parenteral routes -Adolescents; elderly - may need consultation
- -Watch for Misuse

Initiation Checklist	Υ	N	Date
Are opioids indicated for this pain condition			
Explained potential benefits			
Explained adverse effects			
Explained risks			
Patient given information sheet			
Signed treatment agreement (as needed)			
Urine drug screening (as needed)			

# Stepped Approach to Opioid Selection Mild-to-Moderate Pain First-line: codeine or tramadol Second-line: morphine, oxycodone or hydromorphone Second-line: fentanyl

Third-line: methadone