Oral Substitution Therapy (OST) involves substitution of the drug user’s primary drug of use with a medically safer drug and the primary route of (injecting) drug use with non-injecting route (oral/sublingual).

**Benefits of OST**

**Family Perspective**
- Better family relations
- Decreased violence
- Quality time spent
- Decreased demands for money

**IDU Perspective**
- Able to focus on other issues (e.g., family and work)
- No withdrawal; craving
- Stabilised for longer period of time
- No need for injecting

**Society Perspective**
- Responsible citizen
- Increased employment
- Less theft/crime
- Increased productivity

**Why OST?**
- Low chances of HIV and other BBV
- Given under medical supervision
- No "craving"
- Low chances of overdose

**NACO**
National AIDS Control Organisation
India’s voice against AIDS
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India
www.nacoonline.org