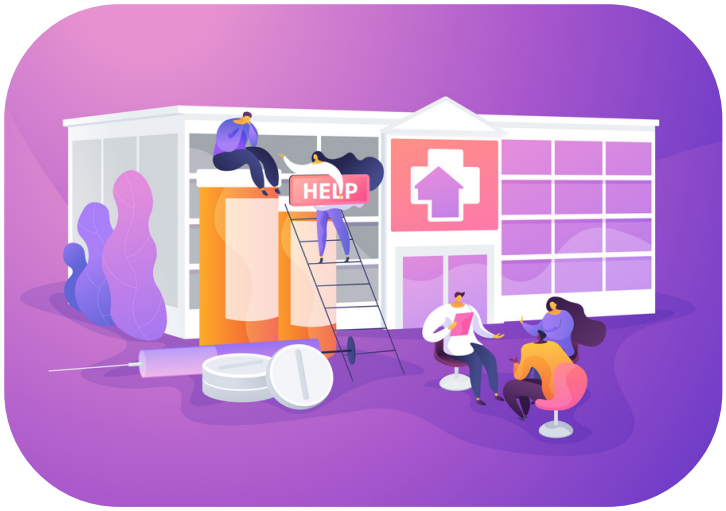
MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

October 22, 2021 **BIWEEKLY NEWSLETTER** Vol. 34



CDC Data Reports Provisional Drug Overdose Death Counts to be Over 96,000 Between March 2020–March 2021

Preliminary provisional drug overdose death counts show that during the 12-month period from March 2020-March 2021, the number of reported deaths was 96,779, an increase of approximately 30% from the same time period the year before. The data again shows the dangers of the opioid crisis within the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to continue ensuring access to evidence-based treatment.

CLICK FOR THE CDC DATA

CLICK TO READ THE CNN NEWS ARTICLE

WHAT'S INSIDE

UPCOMING EVENTS

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11/5: Project ECHO: Homelessness & OUD

12/2: OBAT Skills Lab

12/8: OBAT Support Event

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Percentage of Buprenorphine Misuse Decreasing

Research Priorities for Access to Methadone Treatment

The Impact of Methamphetamine & Amphetamines on MOUD

Multimorbidity & Inpatient Utilization Among Older Adults

RESOURCES

Project ECHO SUD Webinar Archive

Safe Medication Disposal & Storage Reference Tool

Upcoming Events



MAT Lunch Hour: Peer Recovery Support Services

Join the NJ MAT COEs and Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers for the next MAT Lunch Hour to network, collaborate, and discuss. During this event, we will discuss the role of peer recovery support services.

Marjorie Timmerman from the Center for Prevention & Counseling will be leading this discussion on peer recovery support services.

Next Forum: Wednesday, October 27 from 12:00 – 1:00 PM

REGISTER HERE

OBAT Navigator Skills Lab: Trauma-Informed Care

This skills lab will help participants:

1.) Explain the importance of understanding trauma

2.) Identify patient behaviors as symptoms of previous experiences and potential traumas

3.) Understand the role of self-care and team-based care to supporting trauma-informed practice

Join us for the next training on Thursday, December 2 from 12:00 – 1:00 PM

REGISTER HERE

Project ECHO: Addressing Homelessness in Patients with OUD

If you missed any of the previous MAT or continuous quality improvement ECHO sessions, they are posted within the COE Website webinar archive. Please note that you can only receive CE credits by attending live ECHO sessions.

This session will focus on how clinicians should approach housing instability in their patients, one of the major social determinants of health in those with OUD. This session will be presented by Julia Orlando, CRC, Ed.M, MA, Director of Bergen County Housing, Health, and Human Services.

This session takes place on Friday, November 5 from 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Do you have a patient or client you would like to present to the panel to receive recommendations and suggestions for management? Please click **here** to email your question(s) or scenario(s).

REGISTER HERE

OBAT Navigator Support Event

These events are an ongoing opportunity for OBAT navigators and other SUD navigators/ case managers to continue learning through:

1.) Discussion of (de-identified) patient cases and support thinking through patient engagement strategies, potential resources, and how to practice self-care while doing this work
2.) Presentations and sharing updated resources about relevant topics such as harm reduction, strategies for identifying new community resources, telephonic engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic, and more

This event will take place on Wednesday, December 8 from 1:00 – 2:00 PM

REGISTER HERE

Recent Literature

Injection Drug Use & Health Care Utilization in Patients Newly Diagnosed with HIV

This is a cross sectional study of patients who were newly diagnosed with HIV between January 1, 2014-December 31, 2019, at Southern NJ MAT Center of Excellence location Cooper University Health Care in Camden. Demographics, comorbidities, HIV test results, and care utilization data were collected from the electronic medical record.

Thirty-six (19%) of the 192 patients who were diagnosed with HIV during the study period were experiencing injection drug use (IDU). New HIV diagnoses doubled from 22 to 47 cases annually from 2014-2019. Patients with newly diagnosed HIV and IDU increased from 9% in 2014 to 32% in 2019; 89% patients with IDU experienced at least one contact with the health care system in the year prior their diagnoses compared to 63% patients without IDU. The median number of visits was seven for patients with IDU vs. one for patients without IDU.

The study identified that patients with IDU and newly diagnosed HIV experienced multiple contacts with the health care system and high ED visits in the year prior diagnoses, primarily due to non-HIV complications of IDU.

Several factors may have contributed to the increase in HIV diagnoses in patients with IDU and could explain high rates of comorbidities. As such, there remains a critical need for further research on exploration of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) utilization, better characterization of patient encounters prior to diagnoses, and identification of opportunities for HIV prevention and earlier diagnoses.

CLICK TO READ THE ARTICLE

Prevalence of Buprenorphine Misuse Decreased Amongst U.S. Adults with Opioid Use Disorder Between 2015-2019

A recent nationally representative survey of over 214,000 respondents from 2015-2019, representing an estimated annual average of nearly 250 million U.S. adults, found that nearly ¾ of adults who reported using buprenorphine *did not* misuse their prescribed buprenorphine. Misuse was defined as "use without a prescription of your own, use in greater amounts, more often, or longer than you were told to take them, or use in any other way a doctor did not direct you to use them." Amongst those who did misuse, the most common motivations were "because I am hooked" and "to relieve physical pain."

These reasons collectively demonstrate that those who may be misusing buprenorphine are doing so to treat withdrawal and cravings from opioid use disorder. Therefore, ensuring access to buprenorphine treatment is vital to reducing buprenorphine misuse, particularly for those who do not receive buprenorphine via formal treatment, and to reducing overdose deaths.

CLICK FOR THE NIH NEWS RELEASE

CLICK FOR THE JOURNAL ARTICLE

Recent Literature (cont.)

Research Priorities for Expanding Access to Methadone Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in the U.S.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse Center for Clinical Trials Network developed the Methadone Access Research Task Force to form an agenda to expand access to methadone treatment, given the evidence base behind the use of methadone, and the current limitations for access. It identified six areas of research needed that would comprise of a "compelling" research agenda to expand treatment. These research areas are, as listed in the article:

1.) Access to methadone in general medical and other outpatient settings
2.) Impact of methadone treatment setting on patient outcomes
3.) Impact of treatment structure on outcomes in those receiving methadone
4.) Comparative effectiveness of the three types of MOUD
5.) Optimal educational and support structure for the provision of methadone
6.) Risks vs. benefits of expanded methadone access

CLICK TO READ THE ARTICLE

The Impact of Methamphetamine & Amphetamine Use on Receipt & Outcomes of Medications for OUD: Systematic Review

This is a systematic review that examined the association of methamphetamine and amphetamine use on outcomes associated with treatment with MOUD: receipt of MOUD, retention in MOUD, and opioid abstinence during MOUD. Amongst the 39 studies included, the review finds that the stimulant use or use disorder was negatively associated with receiving methadone and buprenorphine MOUD overall. There was also a negative association found with both treatment retention and opioid abstinence. Given that many patients with substance use disorders experience "polysubstance" use, continued efforts are needed to ensure appropriate and evidence-based care amongst those with comorbid opioid and stimulant use disorders.

CLICK TO READ THE ARTICLE

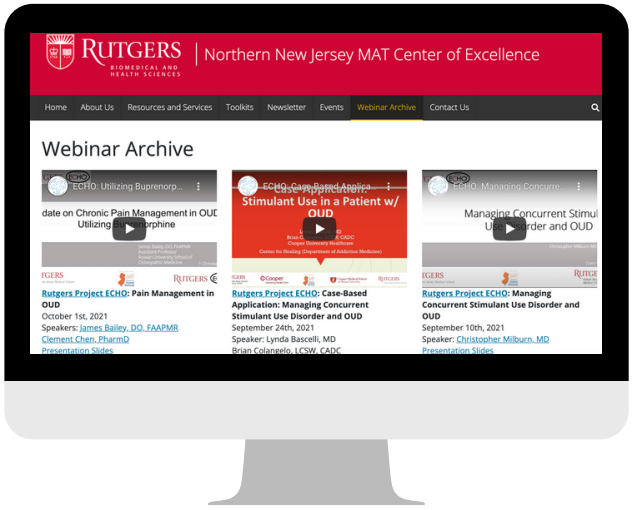
Multimorbidity and Inpatient Utilization Among Older Adults with OUD in NYC

This was a retrospective longitudinal cohort study that examined the prevalence of chronic conditions on inpatient utilization among older adults with OUD. It found that in over 3,600 adults age 55 and older who were hospitalized in 2012, over ¾ experienced another hospitalization, totaling over 22,800 re-admissions during the study period. Nearly 25% frequently utilized inpatient care and had a higher prevalence of alcohol and cocaine-related diagnoses, congestive heart failure, diabetes, schizophrenia, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The results emphasize the importance of the chronic management of comorbid diseases in reducing inpatient utilization amongst those with OUD.

CLICK TO READ THE ARTICLE

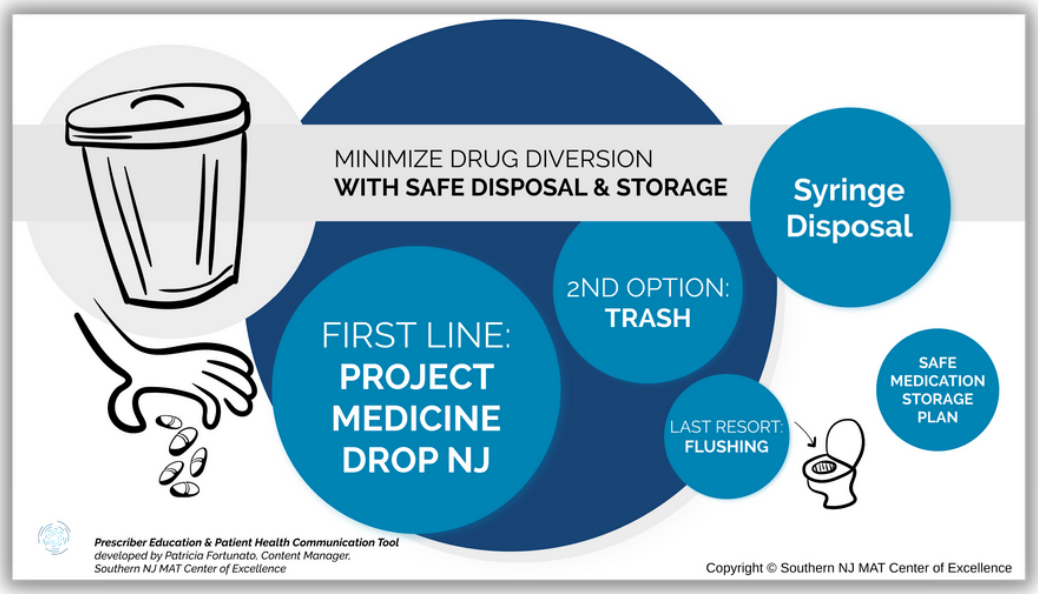
Resources

NJ MAT Centers of Excellence Substance Use Disorder Project ECHO Archive



The MAT Centers of Excellence archives all substance use disorder Project ECHO webinar presentations on our website. There, you will find access to all webinars on treatment with medications for opioid use disorder and continuous quality improvement topics. If you have any questions on any of the material, please feel free to email coe@njms.rutgers.edu

CLICK TO EXPLORE THE WEBINAR ARCHIVE



National Prescription Drug Take Back Day takes place Saturday, October 23. With respect to the day's important messaging, year-round, we are sharing a tool for prescriber education and patient health communication: **bit.ly/snjmatcoerxtakeback21**

24/7 MAT Provider Hotline: 844-HELP OUD (844-435-7683)

Northern NJ MAT Center of Excellence Website & Email: bit.ly/mat-coe; coe@njms.rutgers.edu
Southern NJ MAT Center of Excellence Twitter & Email: @snjmatcoe; southernnjcoe@rowan.edu

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