MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

September 10, 2021 **BIWEEKLY NEWSLETTER** Vol. 31



September is National Recovery Month

Throughout Recovery Month, and year-round, the NJ MAT Centers of Excellence recognize and celebrate people in all stages of recovery. As a multidisciplinary group of providers, interdisciplinary professionals, and peer specialists, we know that the process of healing is nonlinear, that a small step forward is still progress, and that a step backward is not failure.

We are inspired by the strength of our patients who are all healing and building full and beautiful lives for themselves, their babies, and loved ones. We believe in our patients and their bravery, resolve, and resilience.

We believe that all people who are struggling with issues of substance use and substance use disorders are deserving of high-quality and evidence-based care grounded in safety, dignity, and respect. Together we remain dedicated to our shared mission of increasing statewide capacity to provide medication for addiction treatment through mentoring and education, building and nurturing working collaborations within the community, and conducting research and developing innovative clinical delivery models.

Thank you to all providers and community stakeholders for your ongoing support in sustaining, growing, replicating, and improving evidence-based and compassionate care. We are ever-grateful for your connection and collaboration!

CLICK TO DOWNLOAD HEALTH COMMUNICATION MATERIAL

WHAT'S INSIDE

UPCOMING EVENTS

9/15: MAT Lunch Hour: Xylazine in Drug Market

9/16: Hep-C OBAT Skills Lab

9/24: Project ECHO: Stimulant & OUD Case-Based Application

10/5: NJ MAT COEs & NJ ACEP Buprenorphine Training

HEADLINES

Solving the Overdose Crisis

MOUD in Jails & Prisons

Buprenorphine Dispensing in Pennsylvania

OUD Providers' Perspectives During COVID-19

Development of OUD Vaccine

Racial Disparities in Treatment

Upcoming Events

MAT Lunch Hour: Xylazine in the Drug Market

Join the NJ MAT COEs and Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers for the next MAT Lunch Hour to network, collaborate, and discuss.
Dr. Joseph D'Orazio, an emergency medicine physician and addiction medicine specialist at Temple University, will be leading the discussion on xylazine and its impact on those who use drugs.

Next Forum: Wednesday, September 15th from 12:00 – 1:00 PM

REGISTER HERE



Project ECHO: Case-Based Application of Concurrent Stimulant Use Disorder & OUD

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

This session takes place on Friday, September 24th from 12:00 – 1:00 PM

This ECHO will discuss how to manage concurrent stimulant use disorder with OUD using an example of a real patient case. Lynda Bascelli, MD and Brian Colangelo, LCSW will lead this discussion.

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

Hepatitis-C OBAT Skills Lab

The Camden Coalition will be working with the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services to provide free training for OBAT navigators. Some topics discussed will be how to clarify Hepatitis-C care options and provide reassurance, methods to provide holistic support to patients, tools to provide support, and harm reduction resources.

This event will take place on Thursday, September 16th from 12:00 – 1:30 PM

REGISTER HERE

NJ MAT COE & NJ ACEP Buprenorphine Virtual Trainings

If you have not been able to join the NJ MAT COEs for the free two-hour CME training focused on the how and why of buprenorphine prescribing and practice implementation, here is your next opportunity. Given the recent release of HHS' new practice guidelines regarding buprenorphine treatment for OUD, the course content now reviews all information needed to prescribe in the ED and provides clinical justification for the use of MOUD that can be applied in all settings. Faculty will also walk attendees through the SAMHSA waiver application and submission process to treat up to 30 patients.

Join us for the next training on Tuesday, October 5th from 5:00 - 7:00 PM

REGISTER HERE

Recent Literature



Opinion: Inaction Won't Cut it. We Need to Solve the Overdose Crisis Now.

This is an *NJ.com* op-ed written by Dr. Aakash Shah, medical director of New Jersey Reentry Corporation and practicing addiction and emergency medicine doctor, and Jim McGreevey, former New Jersey governor and chair of New Jersey Reentry Corporation.

CLICK TO READ THE OP-ED

The Evolving Medicolegal Precedent for MOUD in U.S. Jails and Prisons

Written in *The Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law*, this paper reviews recent clinical research on cases that have set the precedent for rights to MOUD for people experiencing incarceration based on the Eighth Amendment and the American Disabilities Act, and examines the state of OUD treatment in the carceral system, especially the role of MOUD.



CLICK TO READ THE PAPER

Buprenorphine Dispensing in Pennsylvania During COVID-19 Pandemic, January–October 2020

This paper, written in collaboration between the Pennsylvania Health Department and the Center for Pharmaceutical Policy and Prescribing, analyzed data from the Pennsylvania PDMP, identifying outpatient fills for buprenorphine products from January–October 2020 while comparing to a similar time period in 2019. It found that not only did the weekly number of patients filling prescriptions for a one-week supply of buprenorphine significantly decrease after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, but that the number of patients new to starting buprenorphine also significantly decreased. Although the study is limited to Pennsylvania and only looks at buprenorphine filled at pharmacies, it underscores the importance of continued ease of access to buprenorphine in the community setting.

CLICK TO READ THE ARTICLE

Recent Literature (cont.)

Perspectives of OUD Treatment Providers During COVID-19: Adapting to Flexibilities and Sustaining Reforms

Led by Rutgers researcher Peter Treitler, this study conducted in-depth, semi-structured interviews of 20 NJ MOUD providers from different settings, summarizing content within specific domains that include telehealth, prescribing practices, OTP practices, staffing and clinic procedures, and overall impact of COVID-19. It finds that changes in care were generally well-received and all were supportive of making temporary regulatory changes permanent.

CLICK FOR THE ABSTRACT

"A Shot Against Opioids": Development of a Vaccine to Prevent the Euphoric Effects of Opioids



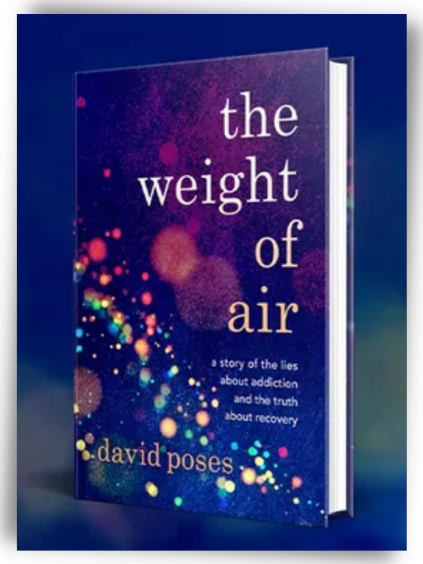
Please see the following article from the NIH HEAL Initiative to learn more about how an opioid vaccine would work to treat OUD. Also, please see the experimental opioid vaccine that is currently being tested in Phase 1 clinical trials at Columbia University.

CLICK TO READ THE NIH ARTICLE
CLICK TO READ THE COLUMBIA ARTICLE

A Primer and "Research Roundup" on Racial Disparities in Opioid Addiction Treatment

This is a story of the effect of systemic racism on the root of drug policies that shape the "war on drugs" and how MOUD is prescribed today. Learn more below about the history and research.

CLICK FOR THE ABSTRACT



"The Weight of Air" by David Poses

A new memoir/book written by David Poses describes the personal struggle to overcome mental illness and addiction, and how drug policies exacerbated the journey.

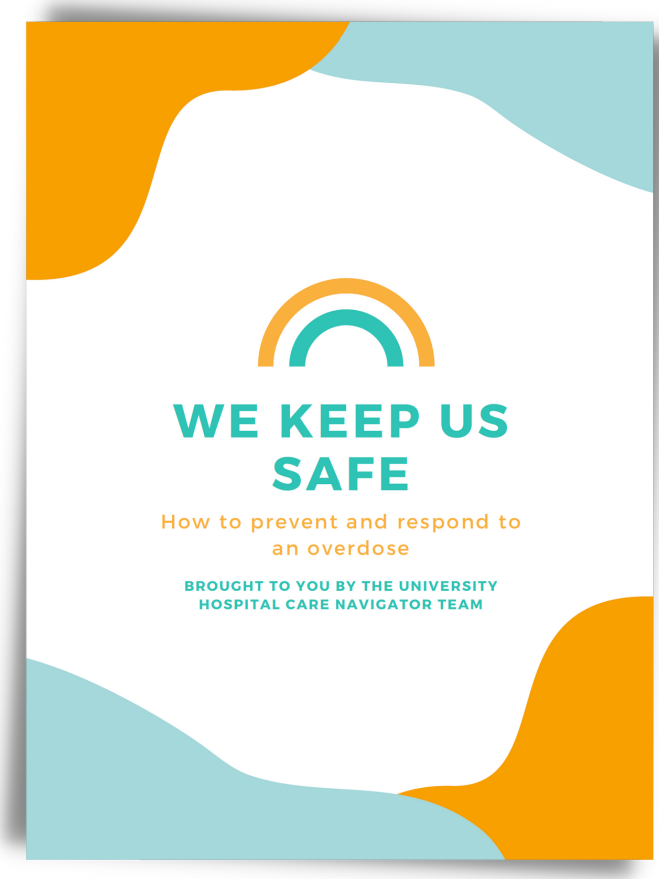
CLICK TO LEARN MORE

Resources

Harm Reduction Guide

This is a comprehensive guide written by the University Hospital Care Navigator Team on how to prevent and respond to an overdose. The purpose of this guide is to provide information about the risks of opioid overdose and how how to safely practice harm reduction in those circumstances.

CLICK TO DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE



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

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Southern NJ MAT COE Twitter & Email: @snjmatcoe; southernnjcoe@rowan.edu

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