MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

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ONDCP RELEASES REPORT ON SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT DURING PREGNANCY

To help ensure access to evidence-based OUD treatment and reduce overdose deaths in pregnant women, the White House ONDCP announced the release of Substance Use Disorder in Pregnancy: Improving Outcomes for Families. The report outlines how overdose-related deaths in pregnant and postpartum women can be prevented with evidence-based MOUD, particularly buprenorphine and methadone. It also describes systemic and cultural barriers that make accessing care difficult and outlines key actions the Biden-Harris Administration will take to connect pregnant women with SUD to care. Improving maternal health outcomes and expanding access to evidence-based treatment for all, including pregnant women, are both key priorities for the Biden-Harris Administration, and the report lays out key actions the Administration will pursue.

Read one-pagers on the report **HERE** that outline the importance of addressing stigma and removing barriers to treatment.
Read the Biden-Harris Administration's inaugural National Drug Control Strategy **HERE** and the fact sheet **HERE**.

WHAT'S INSIDE

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/8: RARC Addiction Seminar Series

11/11: ECHO: Combating Regulatory Hurdles to Increasing Access to MOUD

11/17: OBAT Navigator Skills Lab

11/30: MAT Lunch Hour: Creating Safe Care Toolkit

12/6: Best Practices in Overdose Prevention

HEADLINES

Outpatient Follow-Up & Use of MOUD after Residential Treatment

Ambivalence & Stigma Beliefs About MAT Among Young Adults With OUD

Does Follow-up After ED Visits for OUD Reduce Future Overdoses?

A Roadmap for States to Improve OUD Care

RESOURCES

NJ Opioid Dialogue Education Program Podcast Series

UPCOMING EVENTS



RARC ADDICTION SEMINAR SERIES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH FROM 12:00-1:00 PM

The Rutgers Addiction Research Center will be hosting this series and this month's topic is Neuroscience. All are welcome to attend this hybrid seminar. Lunch will be provided to those who attend in-person.

SUD MAT PROJECT ECHO: ADDRESSING OUD IN SPECIAL POPULATIONS: A FOCUS ON THE CHRONIC PAIN PATIENT

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH FROM 12:00-1:00 PM

Every live session explores active patient challenges from multiple perspectives. You'll meet practitioners from across the state through a simple video interface and become part of a collegial community.

MAT LUNCH HOUR: CREATING A SAFE CARE TOOLKIT

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH FROM 12:00-1:00 PM

The presenter for this session will be Michelle Adyniec of the Camden Coalition. The MAT Lunch Hours are hour-long virtual meetings to hear from experts and discuss the latest in clinical and non-clinical issues affecting the MAT patient population.

OBAT NAVIGATOR MONTHLY RESOURCE CALLS & SKILLS LAB

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH FROM 12:00-1:00 PM

The Camden Coalition offers monthly resources calls & skills labs to provide ongoing opportunity for OBAT navigators & other SUD navigators/case managers to continue learning through:

- Hour-long deep dive of particular content areas
- Discussion of (de-identified) patient cases & support thinking through patient engagement strategies, potential resources, & how to practice self-care while doing this work
- Presentations & sharing updated resources about relevant topics

These events take place every 3rd Thursday of the month from 12pm - 1pm

BEST PRACTICES IN OVERDOSE PREVENTION: LEVERAGING STRATEGIC PARTNERS

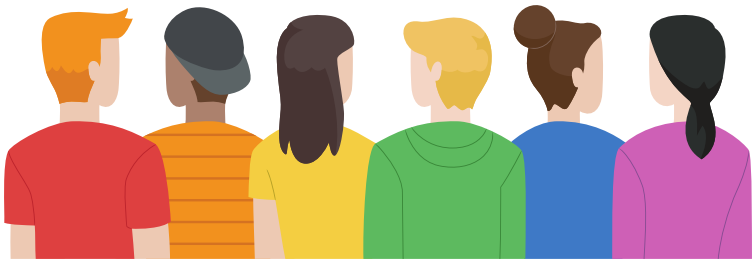
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH FROM 8:00 AM-3:30 PM

CAI Global is hosting an in-person conference to discuss the past, present, and future of harm reduction and overdose prevention in NJ. This Project strives to build the trauma lens in agencies that work in public health and public safety across the state to foster a trauma-informed ecosystem that allows for compassionate and non-judgmental service delivery approaches.

RECENT NEWS

OUTPATIENT FOLLOW-UP AND USE OF MEDICATIONS FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER AFTER RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT AMONG MEDICAID ENROLLEES IN 10 STATES

Ensuring treatment retention/follow-up after residential treatment is considered best practice in supporting patients with OUD in their recovery. Yet, little is known about rates of follow-up after discharge. This study sought to measure rates of follow-up and use of MOUD after residential treatment among Medicaid enrollees in 10 states, and to understand both the enrollee and episode characteristics associated with both outcomes. The study found that after adjusting for the data, co-occurring mental health conditions, longer lengths of stay, prior receipt of MOUD or behavioral health counseling, and a recent ED visit for OUD were associated with a greater likelihood of receiving follow-up treatment, including MOUD after discharge. Nearly 63% and 47% of episodes did not receive follow-up or MOUD at 7 days, and 30 days, respectively. More needs to be done to ensure a higher rate of residential treatment facilities are following best practices.



AMBIVALENCE AND STIGMA BELIEFS ABOUT MEDICATION TREATMENT AMONG YOUNG ADULTS WITH OPIOID USE DISORDER: A QUALITATIVE EXPLORATION OF YOUNG ADULTS' PERSPECTIVES

Young adults with OUD have low engagement in treatment with MOUD due to existing, but unfortunate, stigma. This study sought to explore the beliefs and attitudes about MOUD among young adults, which identified 3 themes. First, participants perceived being on MOUD as stigmatizing. They regarded MOUD as lifesaving but ultimately as a "crutch" hindering their full recovery. Second, young adults expressed ambivalence (not related to stigma) related to fear of withdrawal symptoms and concerns about their ability to live independent lives, side effects, and unknown treatment duration. Third, and most promising, some participants felt that MOUD was more than just a means to reduce risk of overdose, it was a means to become fully functioning in their lives. Interventions addressing concerns about stigma and ambivalence towards of MOUD could improve engagement and retention of young adults, helping them be more accepting of evidence-based treatment.

RECENT NEWS

FOLLOW-UP AFTER ED VISITS FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER: DO THEY REDUCE FUTURE OVERDOSES?

Follow-up visits within 7 days of an ED visit related to OUD is a key measure of treatment quality. This study sought to examine the rate of 7-day follow-up after an OUD-related ED visit and the association with future overdoses across 11 states. Among nearly 115k Medicaid enrollees with an OUD-related ED visit, 16% had a follow-up visit within 7 days. These rates varied across the states from 7% to 22%. Compared to those with no follow-up visit, enrollees with a follow-up visit were more likely to be female, non-Hispanic White, less likely to have had an overdose or other SUD at the time of the ED visit, and much more likely to have been receiving MOUD treatment prior to the ED visit. In summary, among Medicaid enrollees with OUD, a follow-up visit 7 days after an ED visit is protective against both fatal and non-fatal overdoses within 6 months although there is variation across the states. Both practitioners and policymakers should seek to increase the number of Medicaid enrollees with OUD who receive follow-up care within 7 days after an ED visit.

A ROADMAP FOR STATES TO IMPROVE OPIOID USE DISORDER CARE

Most people with OUD who would benefit from lifesaving therapies—including MOUD—do not receive them. Practitioners often fail to capture data that illuminates how effective OUD treatment systems are—such as how many people are diagnosed with OUD, how many patients begin or stay in treatment, or even how many people receive medication. Collecting this data would give state stakeholders detailed insight into both the strengths and weaknesses of their treatment systems, and a path forward to strengthen patient care to save lives. In fall 2021, Pew brought together stakeholders representing state and federal governments, people with lived experience and other advocates, treatment providers, and experts in health measurement and analytics to discuss which quality measures could help states improve OUD treatment. They came up with the resulting eight measures to effectively diagnose, treat, and support patients with OUD:

1. *OUD diagnosis:*
2. *Percentage of people assessed using a standardized screening tool*
3. *Use of pharmacotherapy for OUD*
4. *OUD provider availability*
5. *Continuity of pharmacotherapy for OUD*
6. *Initiation of OUD treatment and engagement in OUD treatment*
7. *Follow-up after an emergency department visit for substance use*
8. *One or more patient-reported outcome measures to be determined by each state*

Policymakers have long used data to inform their decision-making. It's time for state officials to apply this same data-driven approach to OUD treatment and use these measures to assess and improve treatment systems.

To learn more, take a look at the **Issue Brief** and **Metrics Toolkit**

RESOURCES



NJ OPIOID DIALOGUE EDUCATION PROGRAM: RECORDED PODCAST INTERVIEW SERIES

Register for our continuing medical education series, the NJ Opioid Dialogue Education Program, developed in partnership with NJ CARES, the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs, and the New Jersey Attorney General, presented by NeuroMusculoskeletal Institute Medical Director and Southern NJ MAT Center of Excellence Co-Director, Richard Jermyn, DO, FAAPMR. The series features experts in their respective fields, and provides standardized and evidence-based education, in an easily accessible format, on best practices and current laws regarding opioids for professionals throughout the State.

Topics covered include interacting with mobile units to receive referrals to treatment, featuring NeuroMusculoskeletal Institute and Southern NJ MAT Center of Excellence community partner, Sheriff Eric Scheffler; improving access to medication for opioid use disorder in community pharmacies, featuring CARE Center and Northern NJ MAT Center of Excellence Clinical Pharmacist/Academic Detailer, Clement Chen, PharmD, BCPS; and treating pregnant women with MOUD, featuring Cooper University Health Care Division Head of Addiction Medicine and Southern NJ MAT Center of Excellence Co-Director, Kaitlan Baston, MD, DFASAM.

Podcasts are presented as pre-recorded video interviews, free of cost.