



Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opioid Use Disorder

Beacon has launched an initiative to increase the rate of engagement in treatment for opiate dependency. Based on 2015 the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), approximately 7 million Americans use or are dependent on opiates. This is a significant increase compared to the 2 to 4 million reported in the 2013 survey. The 2015 NSDUH data also demonstrates that approximately 22 million individuals 12 years of age and older needed treatment at a specialty facility (inpatient) for illicit drugs or alcohol use.

Involvement in community self-help programs, integration of behavioral and psychosocial approaches, and medication management are effective strategies of treatment. This integrated approach has the potential to play an important role in the successful treatment of opioid use disorder and provide a foundation for recovery.

Beacon has adopted the following from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) [TIP #43: Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Addiction in Opioid Treatment Programs](#) and [TIP #40: Clinical Guidelines for the Use of Buprenorphine in the Treatment of Opioid Addiction](#), the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) National [Practice Guideline for the Use of Medications in the Treatment of Addiction Involving Opioid Use](#), as well as a [Naltrexone Guide for the Treatment of People with Opioid Dependence](#). These documents provide consensus and evidence based guidance on the use of these medications. The goal of the TIPs and Guides is to provide information that physicians can use to make practical and informed decisions about the use of medications to treat opioid addiction.

A one-page reference sheet based on TIP #40 and a pocket guide based on TIP #43 are available from the Beacon website at

<https://www.beaconhealthoptions.com/providers/beacon/network/ncoc-state-government-and-healthplans/> under the “Substance Use Resources” header.

For additional information resources and available programs, visit the SAMHSA website at <http://www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-treatment>.