

ADDICTION

WHAT IS MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT?

Medication Assisted treatment is one way to help opioid addiction. There are three, equally important parts to this form of treatment:

- Medication
- Counseling
- Support from family and friends

OPIOIDS ARE POWERFUL DRUGS

Opioids are prescription painkillers - like OxyContin, Percocet and Vicodin - as well as the street drug, heroin. Opioids are drugs that slow down the actions of the body (breathing and heartbeat) and affect the brain to increase pleasant feelings.

PEOPLE SOMETIMES MISUSE OPIOIDS

Counseling helps a person learn about new ways of dealing with problems and managing stress. Counseling can also help people deal with depression, anxiety or trauma issues. Through learning new skills and talking about difficult feelings, counseling can make cutting down or stopping the use of opioids easier.



OTHER RESOURCES

Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (CT BHP)
1-877-552-8247
Medication Assisted Treatment
www.ctbhp.com/medication-assisted-treatment.html

HUSKY Healthcare
1-800-859-9889
www.huskyhealth.com

United Way-211
Dial 211
www.211ct.org

Department of Social Services (DSS)
Programs & Services
www.ct.gov/dss/cwp/view.asp?a=2345&q=490632

Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services (DMHAS)
Medication Assisted Treatment
www.ct.gov/dmhas/cwp/view.asp?q=335224

CT Alcoholics Anonymous
www.ct-aa.org/home/

Advanced Behavioral Health (ABH)
Access Line: 1-800-563-4086
Programs & Services
www.abhct.com/Programs_Services

Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR)
Services & Resources
ccar.us/#services

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
Medication Assisted Treatment
www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-treatment



MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT) OPIATE USE

Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (CT BHP)

Telephone: 1-877-552-8247

Hearing Impaired TDD/TTY:
1-866-218-0525 or 711

Website: www.ctbhp.com

MAT Provider Locator Map:
<http://bit.ly/2ctbhpmap>





ARE MAT SERVICES COVERED UNDER MEDICAID?

There are 3 medications that are usually prescribed for opioid and/or alcohol use disorders. These medications are covered by Connecticut Medicaid. They are described below. These medications have a name brand and a generic name and can be found on the “preferred” drug list for Connecticut Medicaid. You can see the most up to date version of this list here:

https://www.ctdssmap.com/CTPortal/Portals/0/StaticContent/Publications/CT_PDL_medicaid.pdf

There are three main choices for medication.

The most common medications used in treatment of opioid addiction are:

- **Methadone** (Brand name Methadose, Dolophine)
- **Buprenorphine** (Brand name Suboxone)
- **Naltrexone** (Brand name Revia, Vivitrol)

Methadone (Methadose, Dolophine) and **Buprenorphine** (Suboxone) are opioid replacement medications. These medications replace the substances that a person has been abusing with a regulated medication that avoids symptoms of withdrawal while at the same time not producing a high. These medications decrease cravings for the substances of abuse. Individuals using these medications are comfortable and able to take part in their usual daily activities without impairment.

Naltrexone (Revia) helps overcome addiction in a different way. It blocks the effect of opioid drugs. This takes away the feeling of getting high if the problem drug is used again. This makes naltrexone a good choice to prevent relapse (falling back into problem drug use).

All of these medications have the same positive effect. They reduce cravings for the substance of abuse.

All three medications are available in pill form and are taken daily. Methadone can also come in a liquid form and, regardless of the form, is taken in a supervised clinic setting. After time, buprenorphine is taken daily or every other day, and doses of naltrexone are taken up to 3 days apart. Naltrexone can also come in an injection form.

Name	Frequency	Pharmacy prior auth. needed?
Buprenorphine (Brand name Suboxone)	Daily	No
Generic Buprenorphine Tablet	Daily	Yes
Naltrexone Tablet (Brand name Revia)	Daily	No
Naltrexone (Brand name Vivitrol for extended-release injectable)	Injectable (gradual release) every 30 days	Yes
Methadone	Daily	No

Methadone to treat addiction is dispensed only at specially licensed treatment centers. Buprenorphine and naltrexone are dispensed at treatment centers or prescribed by doctors or nurse practitioners. Prescribers must have special approval to prescribe buprenorphine. Some people go to the treatment center or doctor’s office every time they need to take their medication. People who are stable in recovery may be prescribed a supply of medication to take at home.