



Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Policy

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Policy It is the policy of the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) to provide Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for the treatment of substance use disorders (SUD) when indicated.

Purpose To provide the DBH workforce with appropriate procedures for administering MAT services.

Definition(s)

Alcohol Use Disorder: A pattern of alcohol use that involves problems controlling drinking, being preoccupied with alcohol or continuing to use alcohol even when it causes problems.

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT): The use of medication approved by the United States (U.S.) Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for treatment of substance use disorder (SUD).

Opioid: A class of drugs that act on the opioid receptors in the central nervous system causing sedation including synthetic opioids such as fentanyl; pain relievers available legally by prescription, and the illegal drug heroin, among others.

FDA approved medications for MAT The Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 made it possible for physicians to treat opioid dependence in their own practices with Schedule III, IV, or V opioid medications approved by the FDA. The following is a list of FDA approved medications for MAT services:

- Acamprosate;
- Buprenorphine;
- Disulfiram;
- Naloxone;
- Naltrexone;
- Long-acting injectable buprenorphine from Sublocade, and
- Long-acting injectable naltrexone from Vivitrol.

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Methods of requesting MAT

Clients seeking MAT services must be assessed by a physician at an approved Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) SUD treatment facility using a biopsychosocial assessment.

Clients can request or be referred for MAT services through one of the following methods:

- The Screening Assessment and Referral Center (SARC),
 - Referrals from:
 - Hospitals;
 - Direct DBH SUD Clinic contact;
 - Treatment court;
 - Correctional facility, or
 - Other programs.
 - At the currently enrolled DBH SUD clinic, or
 - Self-referral.
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Rights and Responsibilities for MAT Services

Clients and facilities have the following rights and responsibilities in the provision of MAT services:

- Access to the facility shall not be denied because of a client's use of prescribed medications for the treatment of SUD;
- Assurance that a client is *not*:
 - Required to change their MAT medication to receive treatment services, and
 - Denied access to medications as part of MAT for:
 - Not participating in all services offered by a facility,
 - Substance use or misuse, and
 - Being within the constraints of safe medical practice as determined by a license medical provider considering risks and benefits;
- Support for a client who wants to continue to receive their preferred MAT medications, and
- Confirmation that a client will not be compelled to discontinue, decrease dosage, or abstain from medications provided as part of MAT as a condition of entering or remaining in the facility.

Note: Clients with Opiate or Alcohol Use Disorder who are experiencing cravings and have not improved in response to psychosocial approaches must be assessed for MAT services.

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**Related Policy
or Procedure**

[DBH Standard Practice Manual and Departmental Forms:](#)

- Control, Access and Accountability of Medications and Medical Supplies Policy (MDS2008)
- Control, Access and Accountability of Medications and Medical Supplies Procedure (MDS2008-1)
- Medication Disposal Procedure (MDS2023)
- Advance Health Care Directive (COM018)
- Notice of Privacy Practices (NOPP) and Acknowledgement of Receipt of NOPP (COM004)
- Request for Restriction of Confidential Communication (COM030)
- Notice of Personal Rights (SUDRS003)
- Substance Use Disorder Referral Form (SUDRS034)
- Tuberculosis (TB) Questionnaire (ADS005)
- Client Payment Agreement (CLP001)
- Client Admission Agreement (Avatar) (SUDRS022)
- Authorization to Release Protected Health Information (PHI) (COM001)
- Consent for Outpatient Treatment (COM013)
- Title 22 Fair hearing Rights (SUDRS002)
- Opioid Agreement for Buprenorphine Medication Assisted Treatment (SUDRS040)

DBH Website

- [Medication Assisted Treatment for Substance Use Disorders](#)

Reference(s)

[Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations § 8.11\(h\)
Health Questionnaire \(DHCS5103\)
BHIN 23-054](#)
