



Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System: Medication Assisted Treatment Frequently Asked Questions

Technical Assistance Webinar for Counties
August 2, 2018



Overview of Presentation

- State Updates
- Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
- Questions and Discussion
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State Updates



Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS)

MAT FAQs

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Required MAT in DMC-ODS



Medication Assisted Treatment

What is MAT?

- MAT is the use of prescription medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a whole-person approach to the treatment of substance use disorders (SUDs).



Beneficiary Rights

Can residential or outpatient providers refuse to treat a beneficiary who is utilizing MAT?

- No. Residential and outpatient facilities cannot deny a patient utilizing or needing MAT from program participation.



DMC-ODS Requirements

What are provider requirements under the DMC-ODS related to MAT?

Counties must require:

- That providers have procedures and protocols in place to assure care coordination and linkage to other services and supports for beneficiaries receiving MAT.
- Regular communication with the physicians of the beneficiaries who are prescribed these medications, unless the beneficiary chooses not to consent to signing a 42 CFR Part 2-compliant release of information for this purpose.



Required MAT under the DMC-ODS

What MAT services must be made available under the DMC-ODS (a.k.a. “required” MAT)?

- Counties contracting to participate in DMC-ODS are required to cover and ensure access to Narcotic Treatment Program (NTP) services in NTP-licensed settings.
- Services are provided in accordance with an individualized treatment plan determined by a licensed physician or licensed prescriber and approved and authorized according to the State of California requirements.



Narcotic Treatment Programs

What medications are required to be available through NTPs under DMC-ODS?

- Medications required to be available through NTPs under DMC-ODS include:
 - Methadone
 - Buprenorphine
 - Naloxone
 - Disulfiram



Narcotic Treatment Programs

What are the components of NTP services?

- NTP service components include:
 - Intake
 - Individual and Group Counseling
 - Patient Education
 - Medication Services
 - Collateral Services
 - Crisis Intervention Services
 - Treatment Planning
 - Medical Psychotherapy
 - Discharge Services



Narcotic Treatment Programs

Are there counseling requirements for NTP services?

- Yes. A patient must receive at minimum 50 minutes of counseling sessions with a therapist or counselor for up to 200 minutes per calendar month.



Narcotic Treatment Programs

Where can NTP services be provided?

- NTP services may only be provided in NTP-licensed settings.

Can counties require prior authorization for NTP services?

- No. NTP services under DMC-ODS shall not require prior authorization.



Narcotic Treatment Programs

What are the reimbursement rates for NTP?

- The statewide rates are published annually by DHCS via Information Notices (INs).
- The Fiscal Year 17-18 reimbursement rates for methadone are reported in [MHSUDS IN 17-018](#).
- The rates for buprenorphine, disulfiram, and naloxone are reported in [MHSUDS IN 17-029](#).
- For updates, check:
<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Pages/MHSUDS-Information-Notices.aspx>



Narcotic Treatment Programs

Is the National Drug Code (NDC) required for claiming medications at an NTP?

- Claims for medications other than methadone must include the NDC. This applies to NTP and non-NTP settings.



Naloxone

What is naloxone?

- Naloxone is a life-saving medication that works to reverse an opioid overdose while having little to no effects on an individual if opioids are not present in their system.
- The medication can be given by intranasal spray, intramuscular (into the muscle), subcutaneous (under the skin), or intravenous injection.



Naloxone

Where is naloxone allowed?

- Licensed residential treatment programs and certified outpatient DMC treatment programs are permitted to utilize naloxone at their program site. All forms of naloxone are allowed.
- NTPs are required to offer naloxone under DMC-ODS.
- For complete information about naloxone, IN 17-048: http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Documents/MHSUDS_Information_Notice_17_048_Naloxone.pdf



Naloxone

What are the requirements for DMC-ODS sites that provide naloxone?

- All forms of the medication shall be recorded, stored, and destroyed in the same manner as prescription medications.
- Programs must have policies, procedures, and protocols related to how the medication will be stored, any documentation associated with the administration of it, and disposal.



Naloxone

Can the requirement to offer naloxone at an NTP be met by offering a form of buprenorphine (suboxone) that contains both buprenorphine and naloxone in the formula?

- No. While NTPs may offer forms of buprenorphine that contain naloxone in the formula, this is not a replacement for naloxone.
- Naloxone by itself is used to treat a narcotic overdose in an emergency situation.
- Naloxone as a combo product with buprenorphine is utilized to prevent diversion of the medication.



Optional MAT in DMC-ODS



Optional MAT in DMC-ODS

What are the optional MAT services covered under DMC-ODS?

- Counties contracting to participate in DMC-ODS may choose to offer additional MAT beyond the required NTP services. These services shall be described in the county intergovernmental agreement.



Optional MAT in DMC-ODS

What are the components of optional MAT?

The service components include:

- Ordering
- Prescribing
- Administering
- Monitoring

Where can optional MAT services be provided?

- Optional MAT services can be provided in a variety of settings as specified in the county-specific intergovernmental agreement.



Optional MAT in DMC-ODS

What are the reimbursement rates for optional MAT services covered by individual counties under DMC-ODS?

- The rates for optional MAT services (e.g., long-acting injectable naltrexone) are developed by each county subject to DHCS approval.

Is the NDC required for claiming optional MAT?

- Claims for medications other than methadone must include the NDC. This applies to NTP and non-NTP settings.



MAT Outside of DMC-ODS



MAT Services Outside of DMC-ODS

Are MAT services available outside of DMC-ODS?

- Yes. Medi-Cal beneficiaries may access MAT services outside of DMC-ODS under certain circumstances:
 - **Medi-Cal Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medical Benefit.** SUD treatment providers may offer certain MAT services by enrolling physicians as FFS providers and adhering to various registration and other regulatory requirements.
 - **Medi-Cal Pharmacy Benefit.** If a FFS physician does not administer the drug and instead writes a prescription for the medication to be dispensed or administered at a pharmacy, the drug cost is covered under the Pharmacy Benefit.



MAT Services Outside of DMC-ODS

What medications are available outside of DMC-ODS for Medi-Cal beneficiaries?

- Medications covered by Medi-Cal that may be prescribed by an appropriately registered and enrolled FFS physician include:
 - Buprenorphine
 - Injectable Naltrexone
 - Naloxone
 - Disulfiram
 - Acamprosate
 - Other FDA-approved medications for SUD on Medi-Cal formulary



MAT Services Outside of DMC-ODS

Is methadone available to Medi-Cal beneficiaries via the FFS Medical or Pharmacy Benefit?

- No. Methadone is only available to Medi-Cal beneficiaries through a certified NTP under the DMC-ODS program (or standard DMC program in non-ODS counties).



MAT Services Outside of DMC-ODS

What are the requirements for providers that want to order, stock, prescribe, and / or administer buprenorphine via FFS?

- Physicians, Nurse Practitioners or Physician Assistants at SUD facilities who have enrolled as FFS providers also need to obtain a federal DATA 2000 waiver (X number) to prescribe buprenorphine.
- DATA 2000 waived (X number) Medi-Cal physicians can order, stock, prescribe, and administer covered buprenorphine for treatment of SUDs.
- Medications may be prescribed / dispensed / administered in the office / clinic setting.



MAT Services Outside of DMC-ODS

Where can I find more information about MAT available through FFS?

- The Medi-Cal provider manual is posted online and contains detailed information about the coverage available under the FFS program.
- The manual is available at: http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/Manuals_menu.asp



Questions and Discussion

*For optimal sound quality, please ensure that you are dialed-in using your phone and that you have inputted your **audio PIN**.*





DMC-ODS Resources

For additional information, please see the DMC-ODS Resources section of the DHCS Website:

http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/DMC_ODS_Resources.aspx

For questions, please contact dmcodswaiver@dhcs.ca.gov



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