



MidAtlantic AIDS Education and Training Center HIV and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Centers

CDC recommends that everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 get tested for HIV at least once as a part of routine health care. According to SAMHSA, people who abuse drugs and/or alcohol are at greater risk of contracting and transmitting HIV and viral hepatitis.



According to SAMHSA, a combination of medication, counseling and behavioral therapy is effective in treating alcohol and opioid dependency.

Medication Assisted Treatment (Recovery) Centers Offer:

Medications as Effective Treatment for Substance Use Disorder

- Methadone (Pharmacotherapy)
Can lower the effectiveness in some HIV ART medications
- Buprenorphine (Suboxone) (Pharmacotherapy)
- Naltrexone (Vivitrol) (Pharmacotherapy)
- Naloxone (Narcan) distribution (For opioid overdose reversal)

Behavioral Therapies

- Cognitive-behavioral therapy
- Behavior modification therapy
- Individual counseling
- Group counseling
- Residential and other referral services

Access to Harm & Risk Reduction Strategies

- Motivational interviewing approaches
- Address stigma through people first language
- Utilize the stages of behavior change model
Monitor change talk and behavior
- Referral to syringe exchange resources
- Family and relationship counseling/intervention services

HIV and Hepatitis C Testing in MAT Centers

- Offer voluntary HIV and Hepatitis C testing to all clients at least twice a month. If they decline, offer testing again at next engagement, visit or session. Also offer COVID-19 and STI testing if available.
- Offer information/education on HIV/ Hepatitis C and other virally infectious diseases testing as well as harm & risk reduction in each encounter.
- Individual counseling to discuss meaning of positive and negative test results.

Remember to Document:

- Test(s) offered/taken/declined HIV and/or Hepatitis C
- Test results
- Self disclosed persons who are HIV positive in and out of care for HIV and/or Hepatitis C.
- Linkage to care and providing list of locations
- Refusal to be linked to care for people who have HIV
- Reason for being out of care
- Refer request for PrEP

Assess if HIV negative clients should be considered for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP).

Medicated Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)

MOUD infers that the actual medication is it's own treatment which is appropriate to use in long term care residential treatment facilities.

MAT Centers Linked to Primary Care Organizations Should:

Standardize the use of harm reduction strategies for actual, perceived, and self stigmatization.

Harm Reduction Strategies

Standardize the use of people first language to avoid stigmatizing clients

- People who use drugs vs. drug addicts or drug abusers
- Respect the rights of people who use drugs while helping them change

Engage clients in Change Conversation (Change talk)

- When was the last time you felt good without using opioids/substances? (start a new healthy habit)
- How has substance use changed your life?

Engage in Removing Barriers to Change

- Assist with housing/shelter issues
- Assist with applying for transportation/food benefits
- Link to mental health services

Be aware of personal and unconscious bias

- Identify your biases related to gender, behaviors and diversity
- Be aware of your/clients traumatic reactions (fight or flight impulse)

REFERENCES:

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Methadone Treatment (Dolophine, Methadose). (2020). Retrieved from: <https://www.webmd.com/Medication-Assisted-Treatment-Centers.Substance-Abuse-and-Mental-Health-Services-Administration.>
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HIV Prevention Strategy

All MAT Centers should offer:

- HIV education, pamphlets and website information <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/index.html>
- Access to Smartphone applications for access to care for clients
- Offer condoms including female insertive condoms and Dental dams
- Access to Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP): link within 72 hours after significant exposure
- Access to PrEP
- Access to childcare for the duration of the visit
- Provide HIV prevention local resource lists

MAT Staff HIV Resources:

- Utilize MAAETC for training, capacity building, IPE and continuing education credits: <https://maaetc.org>
- HIV Curriculum: <https://www.hiv.uw.edu/>
- PrEP Coursera Curriculum: <https://www.coursera.org/learn/prep>

MIDATLANTIC AIDS EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTER

University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health
Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology
www.maaetc.org

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PrEP HIV Prevention. (2020). Retrieved from <https://www.prepmaryland.org/>
Suboxone Treatment. (2020). Retrieved from: <https://americanaddictioncenters.org/Substance-Abuse-Facilities-Data.Substance-Abuse-and-Mental-Health-Services-Administration.>
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