

ADDICTION

WHAT IS MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT FOR SUBSTANCE USE?

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

- Medication
- Counseling
- Support from family and friends

MEDICATION

Medication can make cutting down or stopping the use of alcohol easier by decreasing cravings or helping the brain heal from addiction.

COUNSELING

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 alcohol easier.

SUPPORT FROM FAMILY & FRIENDS

Developing a healthy recovery environment by enlisting the help of family and friends has a long history as a useful recovery tool. Talking with supportive family and friends about plans to cut down or stop the use of alcohol can help increase motivation for these changes. Organizations that bring together people who have similar goals of changing their alcohol (or other substance) use patterns include Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR) and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA).



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) ALCOHOL 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/2ctbhpmatmap>





ARE MAT SERVICES COVERED UNDER MEDICAID?

The medications listed below are for treatment of Alcohol Use Disorder and are covered by Connecticut Medicaid. 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

Commonly used medications to treat alcohol addiction.

Based on the combination of how effective they are and how well tolerated they are; there are first line medications and second line medications.

First line:

Naltrexone (Brand names Revia, Vivitrol)

Acamprosate (Brand name Campral)

Second line:

Disulfiram (Brand name Antabuse)

Topiramate (Brand name Topamax)

Gabapentin (Brand name Neurontin)

Naltrexone (Revia), is a medication that block receptors that are part of the addiction pathways in the brain. This decreases the pleasant effects of alcohol and the associated cravings. The extended-release form, Vivitrol, is an injection that is given by a medical professional into a muscle once every 30 days. The medication slowly releases into the body until the next injection is due.

Acamprosate (Campral) is a medication that helps to regulate the areas of the brain that become affected in the process of addiction.

Disulfiram (Antabuse) is a medication that deters an individual from drinking alcohol as it causes illness if alcohol is ingested after the medication has been taken.

Topiramate (Topamax) and **Gabapentin** (Neurontin) can be used for other conditions, but have been found to reduce alcohol consumption in those addicted to alcohol.

Name	Frequency	Pharmacy prior auth. needed?
Naltrexone Tablet (Brand name Revia)	Daily	No
Naltrexone extended-release injectable (Brand name Vivitrol)	Injectable (gradual release) every 30 days	Yes
Acamprosate (Brand name Campral)	Daily	No
Disulfiram* (Brand name Antabuse)	Daily	No
Topiramate (Brand name Topamax)	Daily	No
Gabapentin (Brand name Neurontin)	Daily	No
*Disulfiram (Brand name Antabuse) can only be started once all alcohol has cleared the body, otherwise illness may occur.		

Unless otherwise noted all the medications listed in the table above are dispensed in tablet form. They can be prescribed by any number of medical providers but are most often prescribed by primary care providers and psychiatrists. Patients are recommended to be free from alcohol use on the start date for all medications listed above. The medications have been shown to be helpful for some people who struggle with alcohol use. They assist individuals with Alcohol Use Disorder to avoid the consumption of alcohol. None of the medications above cause or prolong addiction.