

Opioids Are Powerful Drugs

Opioids are:

- Oxycodone (OxyContin®, Percocet®)
- Hydrocodone (Vicodin®)
- Fentanyl
- Heroin

These drugs slow down the actions of the body (breathing and heartbeat) and affect how the body feels and responds to pain. This can lead to pleasant feelings.

Opioids are sometimes misused to feel good, called a *rush* or *high*. Some people take too much of their own prescriptions, get prescriptions from friends and family, go to many doctors to get extra, or obtain them illegally. Some people also seek a *high* from heroin, an illegal opioid that can be smoked, snorted, or injected.

Behavioral Health. It's all we do.

Beacon Health Options is the country's leading behavioral health management company. Serving 40 million people, we deliver tailored, holistic services to help solve mental health and substance use disorder challenges for members and their families. Through our clinical innovation and broad network access, we help people live their lives to the fullest potential.

The CT BHP is a behavioral health service system developed to improve the quality of, and access to, services for the individuals and families enrolled in the state's HUSKY Health Plan. Beacon Health Options has been the Administrative Services Organization (ASO) of the Partnership since 2006.

Resources

ctbhp.com: Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (CT BHP) website with provider and member resources and information on behavioral health services and supports throughout state.

abhct.com/Programs_Services: Advanced Behavioral Health (ABH).

ccar.us/: Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR) is a resource to help members navigate the behavioral health care system, connect with others in recovery, and help access area support services.

ctna.org: Connecticut Narcotics Anonymous has information, tools and locations of area meetings to support recovery from substance use disorder.

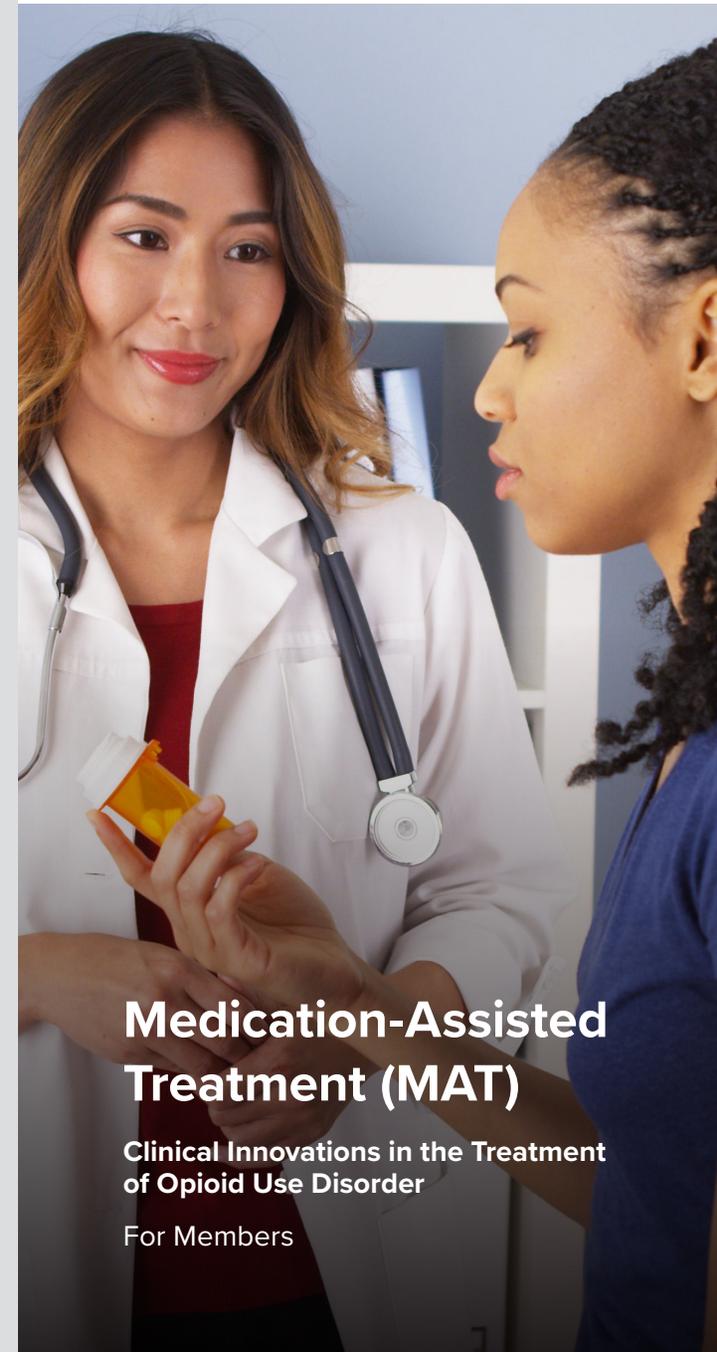
egov.ct.gov/norasaves: Naloxone overdose response application.

HealthyLivesCT.org: Provides information and screening tools (substance use, anxiety, depression) for identifying individuals at risk, and ways to maintain recovery.

Liveloud.org: Resources on everything OUD, including education, connecting, and crisis information.

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

211ct.org: United Way provides one-stop connection to local services, including utility assistance, food, housing, child care, after school programs, elder care, crisis intervention and much more.



Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)

Clinical Innovations in the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder

For Members

What is Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)?

MAT helps treat opioid addiction. It has three key parts:

Medication

Medications help lessen the cravings. This can make cutting down or stopping the use of opioids easier. Medications also help the brain to heal from addiction.

Counseling

Talking with a therapist helps a person to learn about new ways of dealing with problems and stress. It can also help people with depression, anxiety, and/or trauma. Through learning new skills and talking about tough feelings, counseling can make cutting down or stopping the use of opioids easier.

Support From Family and Friends

Supportive family and friends can help loved ones stop using opioids. Groups can also help. Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) bring together people who want to stop.

Evidence Shows MAT:

- Decreases opioid-related deaths
- Decreases illegal drug use
- Improves overall health and productivity when people are adequately treated and monitored
- Enables compliance with—and retention in—treatment
- Is effective as part of a holistic addiction treatment program by bridging the behavioral and biological components of addiction

MAT Services Are Covered Under Medicaid

There are three main choices for medication for treatment of OUD: methadone, buprenorphine, and naltrexone. These FDA-approved medications for opioid use disorder (OUD) come in various formulations available under generic and/or brand name. You can find medications covered by the Connecticut Medicaid program without prior authorization on the “preferred” drug list here: https://www.ctdssmap.com/CTPortal/Portals/0/StaticContent/Publications/CT_PDL_medicaid.pdf

Name	Other Names	Frequency	Pharmacy prior auth. needed?
Methadone	Dolophine®, Methadose® (oral)	Daily	No
Buprenorphine	Suboxone® (buprenorphine & naloxone film)	Daily	No
	Generic buprenorphine & naloxone (tablet & film), Bunavail® (buprenorphine & naloxone film), and Zubsolv® (buprenorphine & naloxone tablet)	Daily	Yes
	Sublocade® (extended-release buprenorphine injection)	Monthly	Yes
	Probuphine® (buprenorphine implant)	Every six months	Yes
	Buprenorphine monoprodukt (previously branded Subutex®) (tablet)	Daily	No
Naltrexone	Naltrexone (previously branded Revia®) (tablet)	Daily	No
	Vivitrol® (extended-release naltrexone injection)	Monthly	No

All of these medications have the same positive effect: They lessen cravings for the substance of abuse and help avoid relapse (falling back into problem drug use). The person taking methadone and buprenorphine feels normal, not *high*, and does not go through withdrawal. If someone suddenly stops taking either methadone or buprenorphine, they will feel sick because of withdrawal. Naltrexone helps treat in another way. It blocks the way opioids feel. A person does not get *high* if the problem drug is used again. It requires a seven-to-14-day opioid-free period. Stopping naltrexone causes no withdrawal. Methadone is given out only at centers with a license. Buprenorphine is either given out at treatment centers or prescribed by prescribers who have approval. Naltrexone can be prescribed by any prescriber.

For More Info About Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)

Ask your doctor or other healthcare provider. You can also check out our MAT Provider Locator map on the [ctbhp.com](http://bit.ly/2ctbhpmatmap) website (<http://bit.ly/2ctbhpmatmap>) to get more information, including MAT treatment, clinics, and transportation for Medicaid members.

Or call Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (CT BHP) at:

Telephone: 1-877-552-8247

For hearing impaired members, dial 711 Relay Services.