

Providers

Clinical innovations in alcohol use disorder treatment

The other substance use crisis

The Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership, in conjunction with Beacon Health Options, promotes the use of Medications for Alcohol Use Disorder (MAUD), an evidence-based practice. Along with counseling and support, it increases the likelihood of recovery from AUD.

MAUD can help individuals stop or reduce drinking by: reducing cravings, avoiding relapse; and addressing biological components of addiction.

AUD is a chronic brain disease, and providers should treat it like any chronic health condition. Consider the following [FDA-approved] Medications for Alcohol Use Disorder (MAUD) on the basis of how effective and well tolerated they are.



Medicaid covers MAUD

The FDA-approved medications for AUD come in various formulations under generic and/or brand names. All are covered by the Connecticut Medicaid program.

Pharmacy prior authorization is not required.

Unless noted below, medications are in a tablet form and taken daily. Any medical provider can prescribe them. It is recommended that individuals be free from alcohol on the start date for the medications listed (absolute for disulfiram). Individuals should be free from opioids for at least seven to 14 days for naltrexone.

None of the medications below cause or prolong addiction.

Name	Brand name	Effects
Naltrexone tablet	Previously Revia	Blocks receptors that are part of the addiction pathways in the brain. This decreases the pleasant effects of alcohol and the associated cravings.
Naltrexone extended-release monthly injectable	Vivitrol	Blocks receptors that are part of the addiction pathways in the brain. This decreases the pleasant effects of alcohol and the associated cravings.
Acamprosate	Previously Campral	Helps to regulate the areas of the brain that addiction affects.
Disulfiram	Antabuse	Deters an individual from drinking alcohol, as it triggers a severe reaction if the individual ingests alcohol.

Please note: Topiramate (brand name Topamax) and Gabapentin (brand name Neurontin) are not approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of AUD, but have been shown to be effective MAUD.

Increasing access to MAUD

Despite its effectiveness in treating AUD, MAUD could be more widely utilized. Here are some ways Beacon is promoting MAUD in the state:

- Providing care coordination and peer support to improve member engagement and retention in treatment
- Coordinating care with Community Health Network of CT (CHNCT), the Medical Administrative Services Organization, to support at risk members

Resources

Click [here](#) for a listing of Member SUD Resources.

Contact us

📞 877-552-8247

Hearing impaired members, dial 711 Relay Services. When you call, you can request a translator in the language in which you are most comfortable.

🌐 ctbhp.com

Privacy is a priority

Your personal information is kept private as required by state and federal laws. No one will know you have accessed the program services unless you grant permission or express a concern that presents a legal obligation to release information (for example, if it is believed you are a danger to yourself or to others).