

Guide to engaging members with opioid use disorder (OUD) in treatment

The Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (CTBHP) is at the forefront of the state's response to the opioid epidemic. It promotes medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD), the most effective treatment for opioid use disorder (OUD).

Select [here](#) to see some **significant positive clinical outcomes associated with successful MOUD induction**. Select [here](#) for our Literature Review, **"Reducing Readmissions in an MOUD Setting."**



Unfortunately, many providers do not utilize MOUD as much as they could, especially in acute care settings. Beacon has developed this guide to assist you in supporting successful MOUD inductions at any level of care. This includes four steps:

1) Support the member's readiness for recovery through motivational interviewing

Motivational interviewing (MI) is a person-centered method for addressing ambivalence about change. Check out the casala.org website for [Motivational Interviewing and Tips](#). MI involves collaborative conversations to strengthen a person's motivation for, and commitment to, recovery.

2) Educate the member on MOUD

It is important to educate the member on the [available MOUD options](#) at least three times throughout the

withdrawal management episode. Review the benefits and risks associated with each option based on individual medical and treatment history and where the member is in their recovery and their personal goals. For example:

- If transportation is an issue, you might suggest an option other than methadone since this requires going to a clinic daily initially
- If they have had a negative experience with a medication, you might suggest another type for them
- Although Beacon does support the use of MOUD, treatment without medication is also an option

3) If the member chooses this option, induct on MOUD during withdrawal management episode

4) Create a discharge plan to continue MOUD with a community provider

In developing an effective discharge plan with the member, it is essential to incorporate a warm handoff to the next, ongoing provider of MOUD. For this reason, it is imperative to be familiar with your behavioral healthcare system, including outpatient providers and rehab facilities that prescribe MOUD in your area. Start by familiarizing yourself with our medications for addiction treatment ([MAT Map](#)). Also, if an aftercare provider is not returning your calls, don't hesitate to call **CTBHP Provider Relations at 877-552-8247** or email your regional network manager at CTBHPRegionalNetworkManagement@beaconhealthoptions.com.

Successful treatment incorporating MOUD benefits everyone, by reducing the rates of relapse, readmissions, and drug overdoses. It is one sure way of helping our members to live their lives to the fullest potential.