

Opioid Use Disorder and Medications for Opioid Use Disorder

Ambulatory Care Pathway

Inclusion Criteria:

Considerations for starting medications for opioid use disorder:

- Self-referral for opioid use disorder (OUD)
- Current or history of concerns for relapse
- Patient is identified to have OUD during an office visit
- Patient returning after induction and stabilization in a community-based organization (CBO)
- Patient initiated treatment in ED or Inpatient and returning to PCP
- ***Patients who are currently pregnant should be referred to (CBO) for methadone***

Treatment Options:

- Medications for opioid use disorder, such as buprenorphine in combination with counseling and behavioral health service, are most effective in managing cravings and withdrawals, reducing illicit opioid use, and decreasing risk of overdose.
- Many community-based organizations are available to direct patients to medication-assisted treatment services, including inpatient and outpatient services, as well as peer support group options.

Community Resources:

- [Opioid Use Recovery Resources](#)

UpToDate:

- [Opioid Use Disorder](#)

Patient Education:

- [What You Need to Know About Buprenorphine](#)
- [Starting Buprenorphine at Home](#)
- [MOUD Treatment Options](#)

Clinician Tools and Resources:

Resource Type/Name	Description
Narcan Resources QS Dispatch	Clinician and staff resource on naloxone (Narcan), including information about the medication, where to obtain it, and additional resources
COWS (Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale) Dispatch	Clinician and staff resource to evaluate symptoms to assess and monitor a patient's stage and severity of acute withdrawal from opiates. It can be used in both ambulatory/inpatient settings.