

Staying in Treatment






Disclaimer: This health information is being provided for general educational purposes only. Your health care provider is the single best source of information regarding your health. Please consult your health care provider if you have any questions about your health or treatment.

Why Treatment Matters¹

- › Medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) might help you feel better and stay in recovery.
- › People who take medicine for addiction for at least one or two years have a better chance for long-term success.

Don't let common myths about medication for opioid use disorder stand in the way of your recovery.¹

Myths and Facts about MOUD

Myths		Facts
MOUD trades one addiction for another ¹		MOUD can help with addiction. MOUD with counseling bridges the biological and behavioral parts of addiction.
MOUD should not be a long-term treatment ¹		You can take MOUD for a short term or long term basis. People who use MOUD for at least 1–2 years have more success long-term.
Most insurance plans don't cover MOUD ¹⁻⁴		All Medicaid programs and most Medicare plans cover MOUD. Most commercial (or employer-sponsored) insurance plans also cover MOUD.
MOUD increases risk of overdose ¹		MOUD may help prevent overdoses. Using opioids one time after detoxification can lead to overdose.
There is no proof that MOUD is better than abstinence ¹		MOUD is evidence-based and, along with counseling, is the recommended course of treatment for opioid addiction.

References

- ¹ Challenging the Myths About Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). National Council for Mental Wellbeing. Accessed August 2023. https://www.opioidlibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/NCBH_MAT_MythsVfacts.pdf
- ² SAMHSA. Medicaid Coverage of Medication-Assisted Treatment for Alcohol and Opioid Use Disorders and of Medication for the Reversal of Opioid Overdose. U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services. 2018. Publication No. SMA-18-5093. Accessed September 2023. https://store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/d7/priv/medicaidfinancingmatreport_0.pdf
- ³ Medicare Coverage of Medication Assisted Treatment (MOUD) for Opioid Addiction. Congressional Research Service. Accessed September 2023. <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF10875>
- ⁴ Use of Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorders in Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance: Final Report. Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. Accessed September 2023. <https://aspe.hhs.gov/reports/use-medication-assisted-treatment-opioid-use-disorders-employer-sponsored-health-insurance-final-0>