Evidence-based Solutions to Expand Access to Treatment of Opioid Use Disorders

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1) Reduce the inappropriate use of prescription opioids while ensuring that patients with medical needs have access to pain control, and
2) Expand access to effective treatment for substance use disorders, including medication-assisted treatment.
Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)...

- is a complex disease that results in chemical and physiologic changes to the brain
- must be treated like any other chronic, relapsing condition
Each year, prescription opioid overdose, misuse, and dependence account for:

$28.9 billion in health care costs
Patients with an OUD incur approximately $18,000 in additional costs annually.

$7.6 billion in criminal justice costs
96% of costs fall to state and local governments.

$41.8 billion in lost productivity
7 in 10 employers experience issues associated with prescription drug misuse, such as employee absenteeism, decreased job performance, and injury.

NEARLY 21 MILLION PEOPLE SUFFER FROM A SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER.

ONLY 1/10 RECEIVES TREATMENT.

Evidence-Based Treatment
Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) is Effective

FDA-approved drugs + Behavioral therapy

Medication-assisted treatment increases adherence and reduces:

- Illicit opioid use
- Overdose risk and fatalities
- Health care utilization
- Criminal activity

Medications for Opioid Use Disorder

Medicaid Programs in 19 States Do Not Cover All Drugs for Opioid Use Disorder

Colleen M. Grogan et al., *Health Affairs*, http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/35/12/2289.full.
ASAM Criteria Use Disease Severity to Determine Treatment Needs

- **.5** Early Intervention
- **1** Outpatient Treatment
- **2** Intensive Outpatient and Partial Hospitalization
- **3** Residential/Inpatient Treatment
- **4** Medically-Managed Intensive Inpatient Treatment

Many Medicaid Programs Do Not Cover All Levels of Care

Pew’s Technical Assistance
# Framework for an Effective OUD Treatment System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Timely</th>
<th>Comprehensive</th>
<th>Evidence-Based</th>
<th>Sustainable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Characteristics to achieve goal</td>
<td>Adequate capacity to meeting demand</td>
<td>Coverage of the full spectrum of services</td>
<td>Coverage and utilization of all FDA-approved medications for opioid and alcohol use disorder</td>
<td>Efficient use of all available funding sources</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geographic distribution of all levels of care</td>
<td>Population-specific needs addressed</td>
<td>Coverage and utilization of behavioral health services</td>
<td>Optimize federal funding sources</td>
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<td>Treatment available on demand or consistent with</td>
<td>Coordinated care</td>
<td>Screening and treatment for co-occurring disorders</td>
<td>Collaboration with community-based partners</td>
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<td>disease severity</td>
<td></td>
<td>Develop or improve surveillance systems to determine scope, monitor progress, and guide interventions</td>
<td>Adapt to emerging substances of misuse</td>
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What Can States Do Right Now?

- Evaluate Medicaid coverage of MAT
- Consider workforce capacity
- Monitor State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis (STR) grants
- Combat stigma by educating colleagues and constituents