

The Ocean County Prosecutor's Office Establishes the "Michael Camillus Project" to Educate Law Enforcement Officers About Substance Use Disorders



The "Michael Camillus Project" was made possible through a partnership with Ocean County College via grant funding through the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General's Operation Helping Hand. The goal is to provide law enforcement officers with the knowledge and tools needed for approaching people with substance use disorders in their communities. Through the project, officers obtain a certificate of completion in addiction studies from Ocean County College. The eighteen-credit certificate of completion allows the officers to sit for a state board exam and perform clinical hours to obtain their Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC) designation.

[Click for the Article](#)

MAT Lunch Hour: The Importance of Partnerships with MAT and Housing Providers



Join us for the next MAT Lunch Hour to network, collaborate, and discuss.

The next MAT lunch hour will feature Julia Orlando, the Director of the Bergen County Housing, Health and Human Services Center. She will be presenting on the Housing First Model, models of housing for those with OUD, and how MAT providers and others in the SUD space can collaborate with housing providers to help patients get and stay housed, especially those on MOUD.

All are welcome!

Next Forum: Wednesday, February 17th, 12pm-1pm

[Register Here](#)

Next ECHO Session on March 5th: Managing MOUD in Patients at Varying Stages of Change

If you missed any of the previous MAT or continuous quality improvement ECHO sessions, they are now posted on our [Northern COE Website webinar archive](#). Please note that you are only able to receive CE credits by attending LIVE ECHO sessions.



Substance Use Disorders
ECHO

The next ECHO session is on Friday, March 5th,
12pm-1pm

Topic: Managing MOUD in Patients at Varying Stages of Change

Gaining comfort in discussing MOUD for patients at these different stages of change will be an important objective of this session. This ECHO program will provide guidance for providers to help patients on their unique road to recovery.

[Register Here](#)

Reminder: Next OBAT Navigator Training Series Begins Tuesday, March 16th



This training series of four webinars focuses on actionable information for OBAT navigators on how to support patients' goals and priorities as well as best practices in connecting patients to behavioral health and social service resources.

4-Part Series: March 16th, 23rd, 30th, and April 6th
1:00pm-4:00pm

[Register Here](#)

Considering the Harms of our Habits: The Reflexive Urine Drug Screen in Opioid Use Disorder Treatment



What should be used to define a successful recovery? The COVID-19 pandemic has truly caused us to re-think the use of urine drug screening as a principle tool for defining recovery. As the article states, providers have often focused on re-iterating the importance of a negative urine screen as it was routine to obtain. During COVID and the era of telehealth, there is now more of an opportunity to discuss other areas that are often important in recovery, those that may not be met merely by the presence or absence of an opioid in the drug screen. This is an op-ed article that explains why urine drug screens should NOT be the centerpiece of substance use care.

[Click for the Abstract](#)

Impact of an Unsanctioned Safe Consumption Site on Criminal Activity, 2010-2019



Safe consumption sites are a public health response to overdose deaths and reducing harms due to drug use. They have been controversial in the US with concerns that they may increase drug-related crime rates in the local vicinity. This article is an analysis of police incident reports for the five years before and five years after the opening of an unsanctioned safe consumption site. The primary outcomes were number of monthly police incident reports with a category of narcotics/drugs and those with a category of assault, burglary, larceny theft, or robbery. It finds that documented criminal activity decreased in the area around the site, reinforcing the benefits of developing a "thoughtful and well-designed" safe consumption site pilot in many US cities afflicted with high rates of drug morbidity and mortality.

[Click for the Article](#)

It's Not Just the Money! The Role of Treatment Ideology in Publicly Funded Substance Use Disorder Treatment



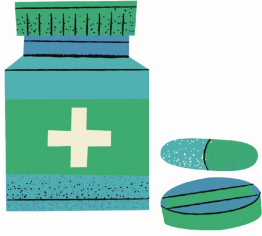
Dr. Rebecca Stewart from the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics at UPenn and colleagues interviewed 25 executive directors of publicly-funded SUD treatment organizations in Philadelphia that either did or did not adopt MOUD. They find that the importance of addressing treatment ideology, namely addressing stigma and negative attitudes, are important in an organization's willingness to implement MOUD. That is, narratives and case studies that address stigma and redefine "recovery" are likely to be more persuasive than efforts on addressing practical barriers.

[Click for the Article](#)

Patient, Prescriber, and Community Factors Associated with Filled Naloxone Prescriptions Among Patients Receiving Buprenorphine 2017-18

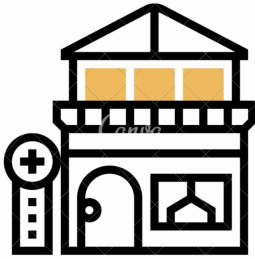
As you may know, prescribers must co-prescribe naloxone to any patient continuously receiving 90 or more morphine milligram equivalents, or is concurrently taking an opioid and a benzodiazepine. There currently is no requirement for prescribing naloxone in those with OUD. This is a retrospective cross-sectional study looking at de-identified pharmacy claims to identify the percent of buprenorphine prescriptions in which naloxone was also filled, exploring patient, prescriber, and community characteristics. It finds that only 4.5% of patients receiving buprenorphine also filled naloxone. It also finds the odds were higher for naloxone being filled from prescriptions written by addiction medicine specialists, PAs, and NPs vs. other prescribers. Additionally, those with commercial insurance were less likely to have naloxone prescriptions filled. Given that those with OUD are

at high risk of an opioid overdose and death, increasing the proportion of those who fill naloxone via education and reducing stigma may be keys to better understanding these results.



[Click for the Abstract](#)

PODCAST: Admission Practices And Cost Of Care For Opioid Use Disorder At Residential Addiction Treatment Programs In The US



This Health Affairs podcast describes a secret-shopper audit of 613 residential programs nationally, with "patients" identifying as uninsured cash-paying individuals seeking treatment for heroin use. Interestingly, 1/3 of callers were offered admission before clinical evaluation and some programs required up-front payments. It discusses the concerns that some residential programs may be admitting vulnerable populations without assessing these patients for the most appropriate level of care.

[Click for the Podcast](#)

24/7 MAT Provider Hotline: 844-HELP OUD (844-435-7683)

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