THE WOODROW PROJECT
MAT IN RECOVERY HOUSING

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DEFINE

- What is abstinence?
- What is Medication Assisted Treatment?
- What is Medication Assisted Recovery?
QUESTIONS

- When could it be considered useful or best practice to be prescribe MAT?

- When would you be concerned about implementing a MAR culture?
What does, “Seek outside help when necessary” mean?
AA has no opinion on outside issues such as diagnosis, treatment or medications; and that its primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

- AA World Service
WHAT ARE FEARS WITH ACCEPTING A PERSON PRESCRIBED MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT?
FEARS OF MAT

- Not Sober
- Trigger other Residents
- Theft of Suboxone
- Providers not referring
- Our reputation
- Relapsing of Residents
- Sharing of Medication
Can the definition of “abstinence” ever include the prescription of methadone, buprenorphine, or naloxone?

What about other prescription drugs, such as antidepressants?

Is there a different consensus? What is different?
SMALL GROUPS

▪ What would be the benefit to implementing MAR in a Recovery House?

▪ What would be the primary challenges to doing this?
Which “levels” of Recovery Houses are more suited to a MAR approach? Are there levels that do not suit a MAR approach?

Should MAR be integrated into all Recovery Houses, or should there be MAR houses and non MAR houses? Why?
If the group doesn’t believe that people who are prescribed with MAT should access recovery housing, what recovery supports should be offered? What kinds of housing is suitable for MAR residents?
HOW TO GET STARTED

- Education and Research
- Conversations with Staff
NEXT STEPS

- Planning
- House Design
- Policies and Procedures
- Talking to Referrals
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Medication Storage and Safe Handling
- Preventing and Addressing Relapse
- New staff responsibilities
- Managing Stigma
MAT has been confirmed clinically effective for opioid addiction in more than 300 published research studies.

Research shows that mortality from all causes is many-fold lower in MAT patients than in untreated persons with opioid addiction. MAT also significantly increases a patient’s adherence to treatment and reduces illicit opioid use compared with non-pharmaceutical approaches.

The Harvard Review of Psychiatry concluded that MAT at least doubles rates of opioid-abstinence outcomes in randomized, controlled trials comparing psychosocial treatment of opioid use disorder with medication versus with placebo or no medication.


WE ARE MOVING AWAY FROM:

- A “Moral Failing” -> A genetically influence disease of the Brain
- A few treatment options -> Many evidence-based treatment options
- A rapid detox and 30-day treatment -> Ongoing recovery management
- Believing only a few people recovery -> Believing many people can recover over time
The Fair Housing Act (FHA) prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in all types of housing transactions. The Act defines persons with a disability to mean those individuals with mental or physical impairments that substantially limit one or more major life activities. The term mental or physical impairment may include conditions such as blindness, hearing impairment, mobility impairment, HIV infection, mental retardation, alcoholism, drug addiction, chronic fatigue, learning disability, head injury, and mental illness.
IS YOUR RECOVERY HOUSE YOUR RECOVERY?
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