



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
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To: Prescriber Offices Receiving State/IROC Funding for MAT Delivery
From: Denise Jensen, IDHW IROC Project Coordinator
RE: Authorizing Patients for MAT Prior to Biopsychosocial Assessment (GAIN)

Dear Prescribers,

In April of 2017, the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) received a federal grant to address the opiate crisis. Over the past 4 months we have been working to implement a statewide system to pay for the delivery of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opiate Use Disorders and are happy to announce we now have MAT available for reimbursement statewide. Now that we have some experience with the authorization and delivery of MAT, we are working to streamline the process to ensure the best outcomes for participants.

The process currently requires a participant to complete a biopsychosocial assessment with the treatment provider to determine clinical eligibility prior to being referred to a prescriber office and receiving MAT. DBH has received feedback that this process is increasing no-show rates for participants as we often lose the window of opportunity for patients when they wait several weeks to complete an assessment. As a result, we are changing the rule for patients seeking MAT services. Effective February 15, 2018, anyone receiving IROC funding may receive MAT prior to completion of the assessment by the treatment provider.

To accommodate the needs of the prescriber offices, we are providing two pathways for patients. The first is the original pathway for participants who call BPA Health first. After a telephonic screening, the participant chooses a provider who has an agreement in place with an MAT prescriber. If the participant is initially interested in exploring MAT, they will automatically be authorized for MAT and the biopsychosocial assessment.

The second pathway will occur when participants present to your office and you believe they may qualify financially for IROC funding. Please have your front desk staff follow the attached protocol titled "MAT Prescriber Authorization Process for IROC Funded Clients." If the client is found eligible for IROC funding, this process will provide for an MAT authorization to one of the treatment agencies you have an agreement with and you will be able to see the participant that day without having them complete the assessment with the treatment provider first.

Please note, all initial MAT authorizations will only be for 30 days and will include funding for the initial evaluation and 30 days of MAT. Patients must complete the biopsychosocial assessment prior to any further authorization or funding. Anything your office can do to encourage your patient to complete the biopsychosocial assessment with the provider as soon as possible will ensure continued funding.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached at denise.jensen@dhw.idaho.gov, or by phone at 208-332-7226.

Denise Jensen, LMSW
IROC Project Coordinator

MAT Prescriber Authorization Process for IROC Funded Clients

For individuals who are not already authorized through BPA Health for MAT and who may qualify financially for State Funding, please follow the process outlined below.

Either before client comes to the office, or while in the waiting room:

- 1) Have patient call BPA Health for a screening (call will take 15-30 minutes) 1-800-922-3406
- 2) Tell patient, when on the phone with BPA Health they need to choose a treatment provider you have agreements with. This ensures the MAT through your office will be authorized and reimbursed through State Funding.
 - a. MAT Agreement With: _____
 - b. MAT Agreement With: _____
 - c. MAT Agreement With: _____
 - d. MAT Agreement With: _____
- 3) During the call, the participant will be asked if they give permission for BPA Health to inform you of the outcome of the screening. At the end of the call and if the participant allows, BPA Health will confirm with you the authorization is in place for MAT at one of the treatment providers you have an agreement with.
- 4) Remind the patient they must still complete their biopsychosocial assessment within 30 days or they will not receive continued funding.