

Medication-assisted Treatment Inside Correctional Facilities

Strategies and Techniques to Decrease Diversion

There are many steps jails and prisons can take to effectively minimize and control the diversion of drugs

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Being aware of this can help facility command staff and the MAT teams proactively address the

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based providers are often interested in delivering services, sometimes for subsidized rates, in correctional a patient will return to the clinic and reducing the significant risk of fatal overdose following release. In

Strategies for Effective Partnership and Implementation

Steps should be taken to ensure effective partnership with community-based agencies providing MAT services. Programmatically, staff—particularly those transporting medications—should of the facility. Correctional and/or medical

Administratively, jails or prisons should establish

parties remain informed through staffing changes,

Background checks and security checks are critical to jails and prisons to ensure safety and control of

staff turnover or hiring of staff in recovery from an opioid use disorder and/or former criminal justice

about their program delivery and effectiveness
Quality



Ú!^ç^} cá} *Á { ^ää&æcá [} Áääç^!•ä [} Á [•^•Á-~ } ää } *Á challenges for many correctional facilities. While many processes should already be in place c [Á] !^ç^} çääç^!•ä [} Áä } Á *^ } ^!æ|Éäc@^!^Á { æ^Áà^Á & [•c•Á•] ^&ä, &Ác [Á TCEVÁc@æcÁ•@ [~|ääà^Ácæ\^ } Áä } c [Á consideration.

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- Transportation costs for correctional institutions that transport MAT participants [~c•ää^Á [-Ác@^Áæä|Á [!Á] !ä• [] Ác [Á!^&^äç^Á treatment

A number of strategies may be explored to help [ç^!& [{ ^Á• [{ ^Á [-Ác@^Á& [•c•F Á• [{ Ä Ä

treatment participants, ensure the provider is adhering to safety precautions and regulations, and confirm

Orientations for Community-based Providers

Ensuring that community-based staff are oriented to the correctional setting before they begin their

that while their expertise in identifying people who need MAT and providing it is critical to the effective

Critical differences in the environment of correctional settings versus the community setting

Technology can provide cost-efficient systems and processes to improve the coordination and oversight

systems support the documentation of critical treatment and dosage information in standardized formats.

Where information can be integrated into databases and used appropriately by jail and community-based

This can inform both the correctional staff's and treatment providers' work, increase collaboration, and minimize opportunities for medication diversion.

Other Resources

For more information about effectively implementing MAT, reducing diversion, and having informed

National Sheriffs' Association/National Commission on Correctional Health Care: [Jail-Based](#)

[Narcotic Treatment Programs Best Practice Guideline \(2000\)](#)

Acknowledgments

convened by SAMHSA’s GAINS Center. This expert panel included jail administrators, sheriffs, medical officers, and subject-matter experts in correctional health care from jurisdictions across the United States.

This document was reviewed by the National Sheriff’s Association and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care.