

## FACILITATOR GUIDE

# County Touchpoints in Access to Medications for Addiction Treatment for Justice Involved Individuals

## Module 5. Overcoming Barriers to MAT

### Module Overview

This module offers a 14-minute video in which stakeholders in criminal justice reflect on how they overcame skepticism about the use of MAT in jails and probation, and their experiences with using it. It includes commentary from two persons with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) who received MAT. Supplemental materials provide evidence-based responses to the most common objections to MAT both generally and in justice settings. Discussion questions are provided to help participants translate this information into action in the workplace.

### Content

- Video “MAT in Justice Settings” – funded by California Health Care Foundation, produced by Health Management Associates, 14 minutes. Interviews with two large jail administrators, county public health director, jail physician, jail nurse, probation director, probation officer, jail behavioral health director, and sheriff who share perspectives on using MAT, and transitions from skepticism to varying degrees of acceptance. Includes comment from two clients with OUD who use MAT.
- Document “MAT for Opioid Use Disorder: Overcoming Objections” created with input from many justice stakeholders involved in the Jail MAT project, many experts in SUD treatment and opioid addiction, and several physicians who prescribe MAT. Research provided by California Health Care Foundation. Document provides most common objections to MAT and evidence-based responses.

### Facilitator Steps

1. Print and distribute Module Overview, Learning Objectives, and the document “MAT for Opioid Use Disorder: Overcoming Objections” to participants as they enter the room.
2. Distribute the pre-test questions to participants and have them complete it. Then discuss the responses
3. Review the Module Overview, Learning Objectives, and MAT document
4. Show the video.
5. Following the video, have participants discuss reactions in small groups. No need to structure the discussion. Ask the participants for comments on the chief points of discussion.
6. Refer to the document “MAT for Opioid Use Disorder: Overcoming Objections.” Ask participants to share objections they have had themselves (or still have) or have seen expressed by others to MAT.
7. Discuss the evidence-based responses; seek to get participants comfortable verbalizing the responses in their own terms. Need not cover every single issue; read the group and focus on the most significant issues.

8. Provide an opportunity for any further questions and discussions
9. Distribute post questions, capture responses in accordance with CEU requirements and then discuss responses

### Learning Objectives

At the end of this session, the participant can:

1. Name at least three common objections to the use of MAT that you experience in your work.
2. Provide evidence-based responses to each of the objections.
3. Describe one example of how persons who have used MAT describe its effect on them.

### Pre-Test Questions

1. Providing MAT in jails is generally too difficult to safely accomplish. True/False Correct answer: FALSE
2. Stopping MAT for incarceration or to participate in drug court treatments can contribute to the risk of relapse, overdose and death. True/False Correct answer: TRUE

### Post-Test Questions

1. Using methadone or buprenorphine for a brief period during detox is safe and effective at preventing relapse and overdose. True/False Correct answer: FALSE
2. A person who has strong objections to MAT may change his mind about it based on knowledge and data. True/False Correct answer: TRUE
3. There is strong evidence that using MAT reduces cravings, which allows people with OUD to think clearly and engage in treatment. True/False Correct answer: TRUE

## Continuing Education Options

Refer to the County Touchpoints Training Site website for information about continuing education credits by discipline. (red arrow)



**California MAT Expansion Project**

- California MAT Expansion Partner Projects
- County Touchpoints in Access to MAT for Justice-Involved Populations
- Expanding Access to MAT in County Criminal Justice Settings
- Mom&Baby Substance Exposure Initiative
- Transitions of Care

**Welcome To TRAINING SITE For County Touchpoints In Access To MAT For Justice-Involved Populations**

This site contains all the materials necessary for group or individual training about the use of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) to treat Opioid Use Disorder in justice system and human service systems.

- Click here for a comprehensive Training Manual designed for use by internal organizational training teams to help plan, execute, sustain, and evaluate internal training. [Read More](#)
- Click here for a brief overview of the nine program modules and some recommended combinations that you can customize for unique audiences. [Read More](#)
- Click here for information on continuing education credits by discipline. [Read More](#)

This project is a joint effort of the California Department of Health Care Services Medication Assisted Treatment Expansion Project 2.0, Health Management Associates, and California Health Policy Strategies. Funding for this project is provided by the California Department of Health Care Services under its funding from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for a statewide response to the opioid crisis. For more detailed information and presenter credentials, refer to the comprehensive Training Manual at the website noted above. (green arrow)

Materials provided may be utilized for the sole purpose of providing Opioid Use Disorder information. Such materials may be distributed with proper attribution from the California Department of Health Care Services, Health Management Associates, and California Health Policy Strategies. Questions may be submitted via email to [CountyTouchpoints@healthmanagement.com](mailto:CountyTouchpoints@healthmanagement.com)

