



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD (BHAB) ACTION ITEM

MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT GUIDELINES BOARD LETTER FEBRUARY 6, 2020

On March 27, 2018 the Board of Supervisors authorized implementation of the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) in San Diego County. This service delivery system transformation aims to reduce barriers to care and to increase access to all effective forms of treatment for Substance Use Disorder (SUD), including medication for addiction. Within the DMC-ODS network, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for SUDs is offered to those covered by Medi-Cal through County-contracted Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs). There are other settings where MAT, excluding Methadone, can be offered, including Federally Qualified Health Centers and Primary Care settings.

On August 6, 2019, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to:

1. Develop local criteria, within the scope of Federal law, for siting and operating Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Clinics;
2. Provide a corrective action plan for clinic locations that are not in conformance; and
3. Create an outreach plan to facilitate and encourage the mobilization of primary care physicians to offer MAT services.

Approval of today's action will authorize the implementation of proposed local guidelines to inform the provision of OTPs providing MAT services within the County in order to ensure best practices are utilized and the highest quality care is provided to those we serve.

Today's action supports the countywide *Live Well San Diego* vision by ensuring safe access to behavioral health services, and encouraging self-sufficiency, which promotes a region that is building better health, living safely, and thriving.

It is THEREFORE, staff's recommendation that your board support the authorizations and approvals necessary to support this action.