	<b>Medication Assisted Treatment</b>			
	<b>Chapter:</b>	Board Service and Program Administration	<b>Policy #</b>	2-10-9
	<b>Section:</b>	Medication Services	<b>Revision #</b>	2

- I. **PURPOSE:** To establish policy and procedure for the provision of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) to consumers using services at West Michigan Community Mental Health who meet eligibility criteria for this service.
- II. **APPLICATION:** All programs and services operated by or contracted with West Michigan Community Mental Health
- III. **REQUIRED BY:** Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Contract for Managed Behavioral Healthcare Services; Accrediting Bodies; and Certified Community Behavior Health Clinic attestation.
- IV. **DEFINITIONS:**

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT): MAT is the use of Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies to a “whole patient” approach to the treatment of substance use disorders. MAT is an evidence-based practice.

Vivitrol: Used as part of a treatment program for alcohol and opiate dependence. Vivitrol (naltrexone) is an opiate antagonist that blocks the effects of opioid medication and the effects of alcohol, including pain relief or feelings of well-being. An opioid is sometimes called a narcotic.


Suboxone (buprenorphine): Buprenorphine is an opioid medication, sometimes called a narcotic. It blocks the effects of opioid medication, including pain relief or feelings of well-being that can lead to opioid abuse. Suboxone is used to treat narcotic (opiate addiction). WCMCMH will not internally prescribe Suboxone, this service is by contract only.

Methadone: Methadone is an opioid medication. Methadone reduces withdrawal symptoms in people addicted to heroin or other narcotic drugs without causing the "high" associated with the drug addiction. Methadone is used as a pain reliever and as part of drug addiction detoxification and maintenance programs. It is available only from a certified pharmacy. WCMCMH will not internally prescribe Methadone, this service is by contract only.

COWS: Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale quantifies the severity of opiate withdrawal.

CIWA-A: Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment for Alcohol is a scale used to measure alcohol withdrawal symptoms. The scale lists ten common symptoms of alcohol withdrawal.

Point of Care Urine Drug Testing: Point of Care Cup’s Drug Testing Kits are self-contained urinalysis-screening cups that can detect the presence of any drug metabolites within a person’s system within minutes.

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Definitive/Confirmatory testing: Testing performed in a laboratory using a method with high sensitivity and specificity that identifies specific drugs, their metabolites, and/or drug quantities.

Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA): CLIA waived tests are generally simple tests that are non-technical. They employ methodologies that are so simple and accurate as to render the likelihood of erroneous results negligible.

Opiate Withdrawal: Opioid addiction is a chronic, relapsing brain disease that affects people psychologically and physically.

Alcohol Withdrawal: Alcohol disorder is a previous psychiatric diagnosis in which an individual is physically or psychologically dependent upon drinking alcohol. In 2013 it was reclassified as alcohol use disorder (alcoholism) along with alcohol abuse in DSM-5.

Annual Health Screening: A basic physical assessment that measures specific health indicators and need for a physical exam or further evaluation by appropriate health care professionals. Health monitoring is the continued measuring of specific health indicators associated with increased risk of medical illness and early death.

Consumer Education: Information provided by the MAT provider to the individual who will receive Vivitrol treatment regarding the pros and cons of Vivitrol use.

MAPS: Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS) Michigan has a tool that helps prescribers identify patients that may be improperly seeking medication. This is Michigan's prescription drug monitoring.

NARX: NARX scores are computed for three different drug types; specifically, narcotics, sedatives, and stimulants. A NARX score is used by the physician as a possible predictor of unintentional overdose when patients are prescribed multiple medications in the classifications above.


DEA: Drug Enforcement Administration, which regulates medications used in Medication Assisted Treatment.

V. **POLICY:** It is the policy of West Michigan Community Mental Health (WMCMH) to offer Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), prescribed for the purpose of treating alcohol and/or opiate dependence within the standards of established medical, state, federal, and CMH policy, procedure and law. Treatment and prescribing will be done in accordance with the Michigan Department of Licensing Regulatory Affairs.

VI. **PROCEDURES:**

A. **Indications:**

1. A diagnosis of alcohol withdrawal and/or opioid withdrawal disorder.
2. Intent and ability to abstain (in the clinician's judgment) from alcohol and all opioids immediately prior to receiving the VIVITROL dose and opioid-free


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(including tramadol) at least seven to ten (7 – 10) days before starting Vivitrol and patient is 14 days drug free from Suboxone.

3. Campral and Antabuse require that the patient is not actively drinking at the time of prescription.
4. A baseline evaluation that includes a physical exam, lab testing for hepatic disease or diminished renal function.
5. Negative pregnancy screen for females.
6. A urine drug screen negative for all opioids (including tramadol).
7. For Vivitrol treatment, a negative Naloxone/Narcan IM challenge (for patients with opioid addiction) immediately prior to the first injection. Suboxone patients, if the Naloxone challenge is negative, an additional oral Naltrexone Challenge will be given; with no opioid withdrawal symptoms present after one (1) hour.
8. No signs or symptoms of opioid withdrawal.

**B. Medical Procedures:** Prior to the start of any MAT treatment at WMCMH, the consumer keeps an appointment for an Annual Health Screening with Northwest Michigan Health Service, Inc. (NMHSI) to assess any other health needs. The results of the annual health screening are shared with the WMCMH MAT provider.


1. The MAT provider will obtain a thorough substance use-focused history.
2. Prior to the first injection of Vivitrol, the MAT provider will conduct the following procedures:
  - a. Determine, based upon the individual’s self-report and any other available information, that the individual is interested in remaining abstinent and ready to begin trying to do so.
  - b. The MAT provider will explain the individual the benefits and risks/ possible side effects.
  - c. Provide the individual with written support information based on the Patient Counseling and Information provided to the individual as part of the Vivitrol Injection Kit.
  - d. Evaluate the individual based on the criteria and prescribe Vivitrol.
3. The Health Home Agreement and a Medication Consent must be signed by the individual or their guardian. This consent shall be evergreen.
4. A MAPS/NARX report required by the State of Michigan will be obtained by a Health Home Integration (HHI) member.
5. A MICR report will be obtained by a HHI member.
6. A release of information to share records with the primary care physician and/or other specialist is obtained from the individual or their guardian.
7. The COWS assessment is completed by the MAT provider. If the COWS is >4, an adjunctive medication may be indicated to assist with withdrawal symptoms and the individual will be re-evaluated the next business day. This will be in consultation with psychiatry.
8. The CIWA Assessment is completed by the MAT provider and treatment is determined by the score on the CIWA:
  - a. <8 = outpatient treatment
  - b. >8 and <12 = will be referred for consultation for psychiatric services for potential supplemental treatment.

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- c. >12 up to 15 = recommendation to detoxification unit for inpatient treatment.
- 9. Standing lab orders include CBC, CMP, hepatitis panel, hepatic panel, and HIV.
- 10. Perform the urine drug screen (UDS) for opiates (11-14 panel, on site drug screen with offsite confirmation) for natural and synthetic opiates, including buprenorphine, to detect all possible opioids the individual may have used.
- 11. Perform pregnancy test for females.
- 12. If any clinical concern is raised by history or physical exam of either hepatic or renal status. Vivitrol may be contraindicated.
- 13. If any significant doubt remains about the assessment of the individual's opioid status or the veracity of the self-report, the Naloxone Challenge should be administered for individuals with opioid addiction due to lessening of severe withdrawal.
  - a. Administer naloxone 0.4 mg (1cc) IM to deltoid and observe for 20 minutes. If no change in COWS, administer additional 0.8 mg (2cc) to the other deltoid and monitor for an additional 20 minutes.
  - b. If the COWS increases by 2 or more from the pre-injections score, the Vivitrol will not be administered. The Individual will be reassessed in 24 hours and the challenge will be repeated.
  - c. If negative challenge test, the MAT provider may proceed with the Vivitrol injection.
- 14. If the individual is transitioning from Suboxone or Methadone, an additional Naltrexone Challenge of 25 mg is to be administered orally. The individual will be observed for one (1) hour. This is to capture buprenorphine.

**C. Point of Care Urine Drug Screen:**

- 1. Ensure that a Health Home Agreement and Consent for Services is signed by the consumer or consumer representative.
- 2. All individuals referred for MAT to the clinic will have standing orders for POC urine drug screen at the time of intake and before any future administration of MAT.
- 3. Educate the consumer that the purpose for the drug screening is for their safety receiving MAT and to ensure adherence to a therapeutic treatment plan.
- 4. Prior to the collection, have patient put belongings in a locker (coat, extra layers of clothing, and have them empty their pockets). Have patient wash their hands. Verify name, DOB and label specimen cup. The staff person who is working with the patient will initial the specimen cup. Explain that they will be accompanied to the bathroom by member of HHI or SUD team member for the collection. Witness to be of the same identified gender as the consumer. The witness of the UDS is not mandatory per policy and can occur or not occur based on the clinical judgment of the prescriber.
- 5. A plastic collection device, commonly known as a "hat" will be placed in the toilet, along with a specimen cup, to collect the urine. Once specimen is collected, the specimen cup is to be placed in turn-around for the lab area.
- 6. Patient then will return to exam room to wash their hands and then may return to the waiting area in HHI or stay in exam room to wait for the results.
- 7. After the dip, specimen will then be packaged in bag supplied by Quest Lab for confirmation with the patient demographic sheet.


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**D. Individual Counseling and Information:** It is critical that the MAT provider educate verbally and in writing that the use of opiates and/or alcohol is contraindicated while in Vivitrol treatment.

1. They may be more sensitive to lower doses of opiates and alcohol.
2. May not experience effects from opioid containing analgesic, antidiarrheal or antitussive medications.
3. May have reaction site sensitivity.
4. Must not take Vivitrol if they still have any symptoms of opioid withdrawal.
5. Vivitrol may cause liver injury.
6. They may experience depression while taking Vivitrol.
7. Advise patients to carry documentation such as the wallet card or Vivitrol tag, which is given to each individual as part of the kit when initiating Vivitrol treatment.
8. They may develop an allergic pneumonia; seek medical help immediately.
9. Should not take Vivitrol if allergic.
10. They may experience nausea following the initial injection.
11. Vivitrol is an injection.
12. Vivitrol is effective only as a part of a treatment program that includes counseling and support.
13. Dizziness may occur with Vivitrol treatment.
14. Notify their physician and MAT provider if they become pregnant.
15. Call provider of member to treatment team if the individual relapses.

**E. Follow Up Procedure:**

1. The individual to be given a Vivitrol Wallet Card or other medication identifying alert.
2. The individual is to be given contact information to Crisis Stabilization Services for 24-hour access to contact prescriber in case of questions or concerns. If they are unable to reach CSS, they are to call or go to the local ED.
3. A designated Health Home team member will call patient within 24 hours after injection to assess for any concerns. If unable to reach the patient, the responsible case holder is to be notified for assistance in contacting the patient. It is the patient's responsibility to maintain a working contact phone number.
4. Upon initial injection, a follow up appointment will be scheduled with designated Health Home team member in the clinic within one (1) week.
5. A five (5) day supply of 50 mg oral naltrexone, in the form of a prescription, will be sent to the patient's designated pharmacy if the patient is unable to get to clinic for repeat injection in 30 days to prevent relapse. This will be sent in if the patient cannot get to their follow up injection appointment within the next 30 days.
6. A reminder call for the injection appointment will be made through the automated system. It is the individual's responsibility to remember their scheduled appointment. If the patient misses or no shows to their appointment, the responsible case holder is to be notified. The Health Home team will make every effort to reschedule a missed appointment as soon as possible within the appropriate treatment window.
7. At the second injection appointment a repeat CMP panel will be drawn to assess liver and renal function and then will be repeated every three (3) months thereafter.

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8. A NARX/MAPS report, a urine drug screen and a pregnancy test will be completed before every injection. If positive results on any of the three assessments, the Vivitrol injection will not be given. The responsible case holder will be notified.
9. Referral to appropriate specialist such as OB/GYN in case of pregnancy, will be provided.

**F. Staff Responsibilities:**

1. The appropriate designee of the program will store VIVITROL as per manufacturer guidelines and maintain an accurate inventory.
2. All Health Home members will receive approved training prior to using the medication.
3. Prescribed VIVITROL frequency will be documented in the Individual Plan of Service with appropriate amount, scope and duration language, as well as authorizations for the service provided. Doses received will be documented in the medication administration record by the healthcare provider who administered the injection.
4. The treatment plan will include education for the individual, their families, and other supports that the patient may be more sensitive to lower doses of opioids and at risk of accidental overdose should they use opioids when their next dose is due.

**VII. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: N/A**

**VIII. POLICY/PROCEDURE REVIEW:**

REV#	APPROVED BY	Policy/Procedure	DATE
NC	Unknown		06/2019
NC	Unknown		12/2019
2	COC	Procedure	05/2021
<b>Board Approval Date: 03/19/2019</b>			

**IX. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ENDORSEMENT:**

I have reviewed and approved of policy # 2-10-9 Revision# 2.

CEO: Lisa A. Williams      Approval Signature: \_\_\_\_\_