ROSC & MAT II: Opioid Treatment Services

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GOALS

• Review medication assisted recovery
• Identify effective opioid addiction treatment approaches
• Recognize objectives and services of medication assisted recovery
• Identify interface issues of medication assisted treatment and recovery oriented systems of care
National Opioids Facts

- 681,000 Heroin Users in 2013
- 11,000,000 Rx Opioid Misusers in 2013

SAMHSA
Medications Approved for Opioid Addiction Treatment

• Methadone: Agonist

• Buprenorphine: Partial Agonist

• Naltrexone: Antagonist
Partial vs Full Opioid Agonist and Antagonist

- **Full Agonist**
  - (e.g. Methadone)
- **Partial Agonist**
  - (e.g. buprenorphine)
- **Antagonist**
  - (e.g. naltrexone)

Opioid Effect vs Dose of Medication
Terminology
Dependence versus Addiction

• Addiction may occur with or without the presence of physical dependence.

• Physical dependence results from the body’s adaptation to a drug or medication and is defined by the presence of
  – Tolerance and/or
  – Withdrawal
Tolerance:
The loss of or reduction in the normal response to a drug or other agent, following use or exposure over a prolonged period.
Terminology
Dependence versus Addiction

Withdrawal:
A period during which somebody dependent to a drug or other addictive substance stops taking it, causing the person to experience painful or uncomfortable symptoms.

OR

a person takes a similar substance in order to avoid experiencing the effects described above.
Terminology Dependence verses Addiction Summary

• To avoid confusion, in this training, “Addiction” will be the term used to refer to the pattern of continued use of opioids despite pathological behaviors and other negative outcomes.

• “Dependence” will only be used to refer to physical dependence on the substance as indicated by tolerance and withdrawal as described above.
**Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome**

- Intensity varies with level & chronicity of use
- Cessation of opioids causes a rebound in body functions altered by chronic use
- First signs occur shortly before next scheduled dose
- Duration of withdrawal is dependent upon the half-life of the drug used:
  - Peak of withdrawal occurs 36 to 72 hours after last dose
  - Acute symptoms subside over 3 to 7 days
  - Protracted symptoms may linger for weeks or months
Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome

Acute Symptoms

- Pupillary dilation
- Lacrimation (watery eyes)
- Rhinorrhea (runny nose)
- Muscle spasms ("kicking")
- Yawning, sweating, chills, gooseflesh
- Stomach cramps, diarrhea, vomiting
- Restlessness, anxiety, irritability
Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome
Protracted Symptoms

• Deep muscle aches and pains
• Insomnia, disturbed sleep
• Poor appetite
• Reduced libido, impotence, anorgasmia
• Depressed mood, anhedonia
• Drug craving and obsession
Which is It?

Should we focus on
Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
or
Medication Assisted Recovery (MAR)
What is Recovery?
Definition of Recovery

• Recovery from alcohol and drug problems is a process of change through which an individual achieves abstinence and improved health, wellness and quality of life.

• 2005 National Summit on Recovery
Medication Assisted Recovery

• Process of recovery
• emphasizes individual supports
• includes pharmacotherapy
• holistic approach
• specific to one’s condition, strengths and goals
Traditional MAT Process

- Induction
- Stabilization
- Maintenance/Detox
Phases of MAT

- Acute
- Rehabilitative
- Supportive-Care
- Medical Maintenance
- Tapering (optional)
- Continuing Care

- Samhsa TIP 43
Medication Assisted Recovery

• Objectives:
  Stabilization
  Engagement
  Retention
  Recovery Orientation

Rozier 2010
Stabilization

- Opioid withdrawal
- Housing
- Transportation
- Nutrition
- Exercise
- Financial
- Legal
- Mental and emotional
- Other
Rules of Engagement

• Follow the Ten Principles of Recovery
• Demonstrate Caring
• Know Who You are Talking To
• Know What You are Talking About
• Present Reality in a Receivable Way
• Do What You Say You are Going to Do
• Be Available
• Follow-up and be Pro-Active
10 Principles of Recovery

- Person-Driven
- Many Pathways
- Holistic
- Culture
- Relational
- Addresses Trauma
- Peer Supported
- Respect
- Strength/Responsibility
- Hope

SAMHSA 2012
Recovery Retention

• What helps keep people in recovery?
Recovery Retention Resources

• On-going Treatment
• Basic Needs
• Recovery Housing
• Recovery Coaching
• Recovery Community Connections
• Recovery Oriented Employment Services
• Healthcare
• Other Social Services
Recovery Orientation

- Recovery identity development
- Connection with recovery community
- Peer support and socialization
- Recovery coaching
- Community service
- Recovery training
Which Treatment?
Treatment Options for Opioid-Addicted Individuals

• Behavioral treatments educate patients about the conditioning process and teach relapse prevention strategies.

• Medications such as methadone, buprenorphine and naltrexone operate on the opioid receptors to relieve craving and/or block opioid effects.

• **Combining the two types of treatment enables patients to stop using opioids and return to more stable and productive lives.**
How Can You Treat Opioid Addiction?

Medically-Assisted Withdrawal

- Relieves withdrawal symptoms while patients adjust to a drug-free state
- Can occur in an inpatient or outpatient setting
- Typically occurs under the care of a physician or medical provider
- Serves as a precursor to behavioral treatment, because it is designed to treat the acute physiological effects of stopping drug use
How Can You Treat Opioid Addiction?

Long-Term Residential Treatment
• Provides care 24 hours per day
• Planned lengths of stay of 6 to 12 months
• Models of treatment include Therapeutic Community (TC), Cognitive Behavioral Therapy.

Outpatient Psychosocial Treatment
• Less costly than residential treatment
• Varies in types and intensity of services offered
• Group counseling is emphasized
• Medically-assisted withdrawal is offered generally done with clonidine and other non-narcotic medications.

National Institute on Drug Abuse, (2009)
How Can You Treat Opioid Addiction?

Behavioral Therapies

• Contingency management
  – Based on principles of operant conditioning
  – Uses reinforcement (e.g., vouchers) of positive behaviors in order to facilitate change

• Cognitive-behavioral interventions
  – Modify patient’s thinking, expectancies, and behaviors
  – Increase skills in coping with various life stressors

National Institute on Drug Abuse, (2009)
How Can You Treat Opioid Addiction?

Agonist Maintenance Treatment

- Usually conducted in outpatient settings
- Treatment provided in opioid treatment programs traditionally using methadone or buprenorphine, with buprenorphine also in office-based settings
- Patients stabilized on adequate, sustained dosages of these medications can function normally.
- Can engage more readily in counseling and other behavioral interventions essential to recovery and rehabilitation
- The best, most effective opioid agonist maintenance programs include individual and/or group counseling, as well as provision of, or referral to other needed medical, psychological, and social services.

National Institute on Drug Abuse, (2009)
Benefits of Methadone Maintenance Therapy

• Used effectively and safely for over 30 years
• Not intoxicating or sedating, if prescribed properly
• Effects do not interfere with ordinary activities
• Suppresses opioid withdrawal for 24-36 hours
Benefits of Buprenorphine Maintenance Therapy

- “Ceiling Effect” reduces OD and over medication
- “High Receptor Affinity” blocks other Opioids
- Dosing possible on less-than-daily basis
- Patients report minimal sedation
- Buprenorphine/Naloxone discourages IV use
- Buprenorphine less likely to be diverted
How Can You Treat Opioid Addiction?

Antagonist Maintenance Treatment

- Usually conducted in outpatient setting
- Initiation of naltrexone often begins after medical detoxification in a residential setting
- Vivitrol injections effective for up to a month
- Repeated lack of desired opioid effects will gradually over time result in breaking the habit of opioid addiction.
- Patient noncompliance can be a common problem. A favorable treatment outcome requires a positive therapeutic relationship, effective counseling or therapy, and careful monitoring of medication compliance.

Adopted from National Institute on Drug Abuse, (2009)
Myths About Use of Medication in Recovery

• Patients are still addicted
• Medication is simply a substitute for opioids
• Providing Medication alone is sufficient treatment
• Patients still getting high
Tribune Headline

Treatment with buprenorphine works….

…but not necessarily in exactly the way you might expect.
2013 POATS Study

• 7% opioid free after 4 week detox
• 52% opioid free after 12 week maintenance
• 10% opioid free after post-maintenance follow-up
Patients in Opioid Maintenance Treatment

• 75% have Positive UDS in 1st 6 mo.

• 30% have Positive UDS in 6 mo. - 4.5 years

• 10% positive UDS after 5 years

SAMHSA 2013
POATS 42 Month Follow-up

- 31.7% Abstinent
- 29.4% in MAT
- 7.5% in MAT and using illicit opioids
- 31.4% using illicit opioids w/o MAT

- CSAT Study 2013
Patient Management: Treatment Monitoring

Goals for treatment should include:

• No illicit opioid drug use
• No other drug use
• Absence of adverse medical effects
• Absence of adverse behavioral effects
• Responsible handling of medication
• Adherence to treatment plan
Patient Management: Treatment Monitoring

Weekly visits (or more frequent) are important to:

1. Provide ongoing counseling to address barriers to treatment, such as travel distance, childcare, work obligations, etc
2. Provide ongoing counseling regarding recovery issues
3. Assess adherence to dosing regimen
4. Assess ability to safely store medication
5. Evaluate treatment progress
Special Populations

- Patients with co-occurring psychiatric disorders
- Pregnant women
- Adolescents and young adults
Co-Occurring Psychiatric Disorders

- Opioid users frequently have concurrent psychiatric diagnoses.
- Sometimes the effects of drug use and/or withdrawal can mimic psychiatric symptoms.
- Clinicians must consider the duration, recentness, and amount of drug use when selecting appropriate patients.
- Signs of anxiety, depression, thought disorders or unusual emotions, cognitions, or behaviors should be reported to physician and discussed with the treatment team.
Methadone Maintenance is the treatment of choice for pregnant opioid-addicted women.

Opioid withdrawal should be avoided during pregnancy.

Bureorphine may be eventually used in pregnancy, but is currently not approved.
Opioid-Addicted Adolescents and Young Adults

• Current treatments for opioid-addicted adolescents and young adults are often unavailable and when found, clinicians report that the outcome leaves much to be desired.

• States have different requirements for admitting clients under age 18 to addictions treatment. It is important to know the local requirements.
Opioid-Addicted Adolescents and Young Adults

• Buprenorphine is approved for use with opioid dependent persons age 16 and older

• Research conducted through the NIDA Clinical Trials Network (CTN 010) demonstrated that it can be safely and effectively used with young adults.

• This research also indicated that medical treatment likely needs to be longer than current standard treatment indicates.
Counseling Opioid Patients

• Address issues of the necessity of counseling with medication for recovery.

Recovery and Pharmacotherapy:
– Patients may have ambivalence regarding medication.
– The recovery community may ostracize patients taking medication.
– Counselors need to have accurate information.
Counseling Opioid Patients

Recovery and Pharmacotherapy:

– Focus on “getting off” buprenorphine or methadone may convey taking medicine is “bad.”

– Suggesting recovery requires cessation of medication is inaccurate and potentially harmful.

– Support patient’s medication compliance

– “Medication,” not “drug”
Counseling Opioid Patients

Counselor Responses:

– Be flexible
– Don’t impose high expectations
– Don’t confront
– Be non-judgmental
– Use a motivational interviewing approach
– Provide reinforcement
Counseling Opioid Patients

Issues in 12-Step Meetings:

– Medication and the 12-Step program
  • Program policy
    – “The AA Member: Medications and Other Drugs”
    – NA: “The ultimate responsibility for making medical decisions rests with each individual”
  • Some meetings are more accepting of medications than others
Counseling Opioid Patients

A Motivational Interviewing Approach:
  – Dealing with other drugs and alcohol
  – Doing more than not-using

MIA-STEP
  – Developed through the Blending Initiative
  – Empirically supported mentoring products to enhance the MI skills of treatment providers
  – Provides tools to help supervisors offer structured, focused, and effective supervision.
  – The blending products are available at
    www.drugabuse.gov/Blending/
    www.attcnetwork.org
Using Motivational Incentives

• NIDA CTN research shows that treatment retention and drug abstinence are improved by providing low-cost reinforcement (prizes, vouchers, clinic privileges, etc.), for drug negative urine tests.

• The Blending Product Promoting Awareness of Motivational Incentives (PAMI) provides information on this effective technique.

• The blending products are available at: www.drugabuse.gov/Blending/ www.attcnetwork.org
ROSC

• Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care
  - Coordinated service/support network
  - Person-centered infrastructure
  - Builds on strengths and resiliencies
  - Abstinence/wellness/life quality focused
  - Prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery community services
ROSC Activities

• Prevention: early screening, collaboration, stigma reduction
• Intervention: pre-treatment outreach, screening, recovery coaching and support
• Treatment: menu of holistic services, alternative therapies, family inclusion
• Recovery: recovery coaching, support services, check-ups, self-monitoring
Promoting Medication Assisted Recovery

• Recovery infusion for treatment agencies
• Develop on-going collaboration strategies
• Cross-training for MAT and other agencies
• Specialty MAT training for professionals
• MAT stigma reduction activities
  - patients, families, community
• Organization development plans
• On-going feedback and collaboration
ROSC & MAT Interface

• Is MAT stigma reduction part of your ROSC
• Is MAT part of a coordinated network?
• Are recovery supports part of MAT?
• Are families and family serving agencies part of MAT?
• Is the community MAT aware?
• Are health, wellness and quality of life resources part of MAT?
Questions
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