



**ASAM** The Voice of Addiction Medicine  
American Society of Addiction Medicine

## Medicaid Coverage of Medications for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder

In Nevada between 2008-2012, persons enrolled in substance use treatment programs that prescribed methadone **decreased 38.9%**. In 2012 in Nevada, **12.1%** of persons aged 12 and older who met criteria for having a drug use disorder received treatment<sup>a</sup>.

# NEVADA

### State Benefits at a Glance<sup>b</sup>...

#### Methadone

Nevada Medicaid covers methadone under Fee-For-Service (FFS) plans. In order to receive coverage for methadone for the treatment of opioid use disorder, federal law mandates that patients are enrolled in, or have documented proof of, substance use disorder (SUD) counseling. Methadone is covered as a pharmacy benefit and is authorized for use in accredited outpatient narcotic treatment programs (NTPs) under FFS plans.

**Buprenorphine/Naloxone film (Suboxone<sup>®</sup>), Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets (generic), Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets (Zubsolv<sup>®c</sup>) and Buprenorphine tablets (generic).**

#### Medication Limitations

Nevada Medicaid covers Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets under FFS plans with the following limitations:

- In order to approve Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets for the treatment of opioid use disorder, patients must be enrolled in, or have documented proof of, SUD\* counseling.
- Buprenorphine dosage is limited to 16mg/day after 6-months of treatment.
- Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets require prior authorization for use.
- Zubsolv does not appear on Nevada Medicaid's formulary.

Nevada covers Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets as a pharmacy benefit under FFS plans. Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets do not appear on Nevada's preferred drug list for FFS plans. Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets are covered for use in NTPs, organized specialty outpatient treatment programs (OTPs) and physician's offices under FFS plans.



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## State Benefits at a Glance (continued)...

### Injectable Naltrexone (VIVITROL®)

Nevada Medicaid covers injectable naltrexone (Vivitrol®) under FFS plans. Patients **do not** need to be enrolled in, or have documented proof of, SUD\* counseling for Vivitrol coverage.

- Vivitrol is covered as a pharmacy benefit.
- Vivitrol does not appear on Nevada's preferred drug list.
- Prior authorization is not required for use of Vivitrol.
- Vivitrol is covered for use in NTPs, OTPs and physician's office-based settings under FFS plans.

<sup>a</sup> Data from SAMHSA's State and Metro Reports accessed [http://www.samhsa.gov/data/States\\_In\\_Brief\\_Reports.aspx](http://www.samhsa.gov/data/States_In_Brief_Reports.aspx)

<sup>b</sup> Data as of spring 2014.

<sup>c</sup> Zubsolv was not included in the original survey, as the medication was not FDA approved until fall of 2013. This summary reflects only information related to Preferred Drug List (PDL) and formulary inclusion obtained from pharmacy and State websites.

\*In Nevada, substance Use Disorder (SUD) counseling is a covered Medicaid benefit under FFS plans.

## Medicaid Benefits for Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder Nationwide

Number of Medications Covered under Fee-For-Service Medicaid Plans By State

