



ASAM The Voice of Addiction Medicine
American Society of Addiction Medicine

Medicaid Coverage of Medications for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder

In Georgia between 2008-2012, persons enrolled in substance use treatment programs that prescribed methadone **increased 48.6%**. In 2012 in Georgia, **14.8%** of persons aged 12 and older who met criteria for having a drug use disorder received treatment^a.

GEORGIA



State Benefits at a Glance^b...

Methadone

Georgia 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. The state of Georgia covers methadone under FFS plans as a pharmacy benefit.

Buprenorphine/Naloxone film (Suboxone[®]), Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets (generic), Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets (Zubsolv^{®c}) and Buprenorphine tablets (generic).

Medication Limitations

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

- Patients are not required to be enrolled in, or have documented proof of, SUD* counseling to receive Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets.
- Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets have a maximum daily dosage of 16mg/day after 6 months of therapy.
- Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets require prior authorization.
- Zubsolv appears on Georgia Medicaid's Preferred Drug List.
- In most cases, Zubsolv is subject to the same prior authorization requirements as the surveyed buprenorphine products.

Georgia 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 Georgia's preferred drug list in FFS plans. No information is provided as to whether Suboxone, Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets, and Buprenorphine tablets are covered in accredited outpatient narcotic treatment programs (NTPs), organized specialty outpatient programs (OTPs) or physician's offices.



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State Benefits at a Glance (continued)...

Injectable Naltrexone (VIVITROL[®])

Georgia 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 listed as a pharmacy benefit under FFS plans.
- Use of Vivitrol requires prior authorization.
- Vivitrol is listed on Georgia's preferred drug list under FFS plans.

No information is provided as to whether Vivitrol is covered for use in NTPs, OTPs and physician's offices.

^a Data from SAMHSA's State and Metro Reports accessed http://www.samhsa.gov/data/States_In_Brief_Reports.aspx

^b Data as of spring 2014.

^c 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 Georgia, Substance Use Disorder (SUD) counseling is not mentioned as a covered Medicaid benefit under FFS plans.

Medicaid Benefits for Treatment of Opioid Dependence Nationwide

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