



ASAM The Voice of Addiction Medicine
American Society of Addiction Medicine

Medicaid Coverage of Medications for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder

In Maryland between 2008-2012, persons enrolled in substance use treatment programs that prescribed

methadone **increased 15.5%**. In 2012 in Maryland, **12.0%** of persons aged 12 and older who met criteria for having a drug use disorder received treatment^α.

MARYLAND

State Benefits at a Glance^β...

Methadone

Maryland Medicaid¹ covers methadone under Fee-For-Service (FFS) and Managed Care (MC) 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 medical benefit under both FFS and MC plans. Methadone can be used during pregnancy and is provided by a methadone program, where dosage is allotted at the discretion of the physician, and no step therapy is required. Additionally, methadone is covered for use in accredited outpatient narcotic treatment programs (NTPs) under both FFS and MC plans.

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

Medication Limitations

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

- In order to approve these medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder under MC plans only, patients must be enrolled in, or have documented proof of, SUD* counseling.
- Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets are authorized for use during pregnancy.
- Zubsolv appears on Maryland Medicaid's Preferred Drug List.
- In most cases, Zubsolv is subject to the same prior authorization requirements as the surveyed buprenorphine products.

Maryland covers Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets as a pharmacy benefit under both FFS and MC 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 both FFS and MC plans.

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

^β 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.

¹ Maryland Medicaid has a bundled weekly methadone maintenance package. In the last several years, Maryland Medicaid has been exploring the idea of unbundling the methadone service. This would mean that individual services included in the bundled rate would be billed for separately. As a result of Behavioral Health Integration set to take effect January 2015, SUD services will be "carved-out" of Maryland Medicaid's managed care program and administered along with Mental Health Services by an Administrative Service Organization.

*In Maryland, substance Use Disorder (SUD) counseling is a covered Medicaid benefit under both FFS and MC plans.



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State Benefits at a Glance (continued)...

Injectable Naltrexone (VIVITROL®)

Maryland Medicaid covers injectable naltrexone (Vivitrol®) under both FFS and MC plans. Under MC plans, patients **must** be enrolled in, or have documented proof, of SUD* counseling for Vivitrol coverage.

- Vivitrol is covered as a medical and pharmacy benefit under FFS plans, but only as a medical benefit under MC plans.
- Authorization for Vivitrol requires unsuccessful use of Suboxone, Subutex, or oral naltrexone and compliance with substance abuse treatment.

Vivitrol is covered for use in accredited OTPs, NTPs and physician's offices under both FFS and MC plans.

As of spring 2014, no medications for the treatment of opioid dependence were reviewed as part of classes reviewed on the Preferred Drug List.

Medicaid Benefits for Treatment of Opioid Dependence Nationwide

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