In Wisconsin between 2008-2012, persons enrolled in substance use treatment programs that prescribed methadone increased 98.2%. In 2012 in Wisconsin, 12.5% of persons aged 12 and older who met criteria for having a drug use disorder received treatmentα.

State Benefits at a Glanceβ...

Methadone

Wisconsin Medicaid 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 pharmacy benefit under FFS plans and appears on the preferred drug list, under both FFS and MC plans. Methadone is covered for use in accredited outpatient narcotic treatment programs (NTPs), under FFS plans.

Buprenorphine/Naloxone film (Suboxone ®), Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets (generic), Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets (Zubsolv ®) and Buprenorphine tablets (generic).

Medication Limitations

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

- Patients are not required to be enrolled in, or have documented proof of, SUD* counseling in order to approve Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets.
- Treatment using Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets is limited to a 6-month period.
- Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets require prior authorization for use.
- No information was provided for Zubsolv.

Wisconsin covers Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets as a pharmacy benefit under FFS plans. Only Suboxone is listed on Wisconsin’s preferred drug list for FFS. Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets are covered for use in organized specialty outpatient treatment programs (OTPs) and physician’s offices, under FFS plans.
Injectable Naltrexone (VIVITROL®)

Wisconsin Medicaid covers injectable naltrexone (Vivitrol®) under both FFS and MC 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 appears on Wisconsin’s preferred drug list under FFS plans.

Vivitrol is covered for use in accredited OTPs and physician’s offices, under FFS plans.

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

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Data collected by the Avisa Group and Treatment Research Institute 2013-2014