



ASAM The Voice of Addiction Medicine
American Society of Addiction Medicine

Medicaid Coverage of Medications for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder

In Colorado between 2008-2012, persons enrolled in substance use treatment programs that prescribed methadone **increased 66.9%**. In 2012 in Colorado, **16.4%** of persons aged 12 and older who met criteria for having a drug use disorder received treatment^α.

COLORADO

State Benefits at a Glance^β...

Methadone

Colorado 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. The state of Colorado covers methadone as a medical benefit under both FFS and MC plans, and as a pharmacy benefit under FFS plans only. Methadone is covered in 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

Colorado 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 in order to receive coverage for Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets.
- Buprenorphine tablets are authorized for use during pregnancy.
- Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets require prior authorization and are subject to dosage limitations.
- Zubsolv appears on Colorado Medicaid's Preferred Drug List.
- In most cases, Zubsolv is subject to the same prior authorization requirements as the surveyed buprenorphine products.

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

Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets are listed on Colorado's preferred drug list for FFS plans and are covered for use in organized specialty outpatient treatment programs (OTPs), NTPs and physician's offices under FFS plans.



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State Benefits at a Glance (continued)...

Injectable Naltrexone (VIVITROL®)

Colorado 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 medical and pharmacy benefit under FFS plans.
- Vivitrol is listed on the state's preferred drug list under FFS plans.

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

^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.

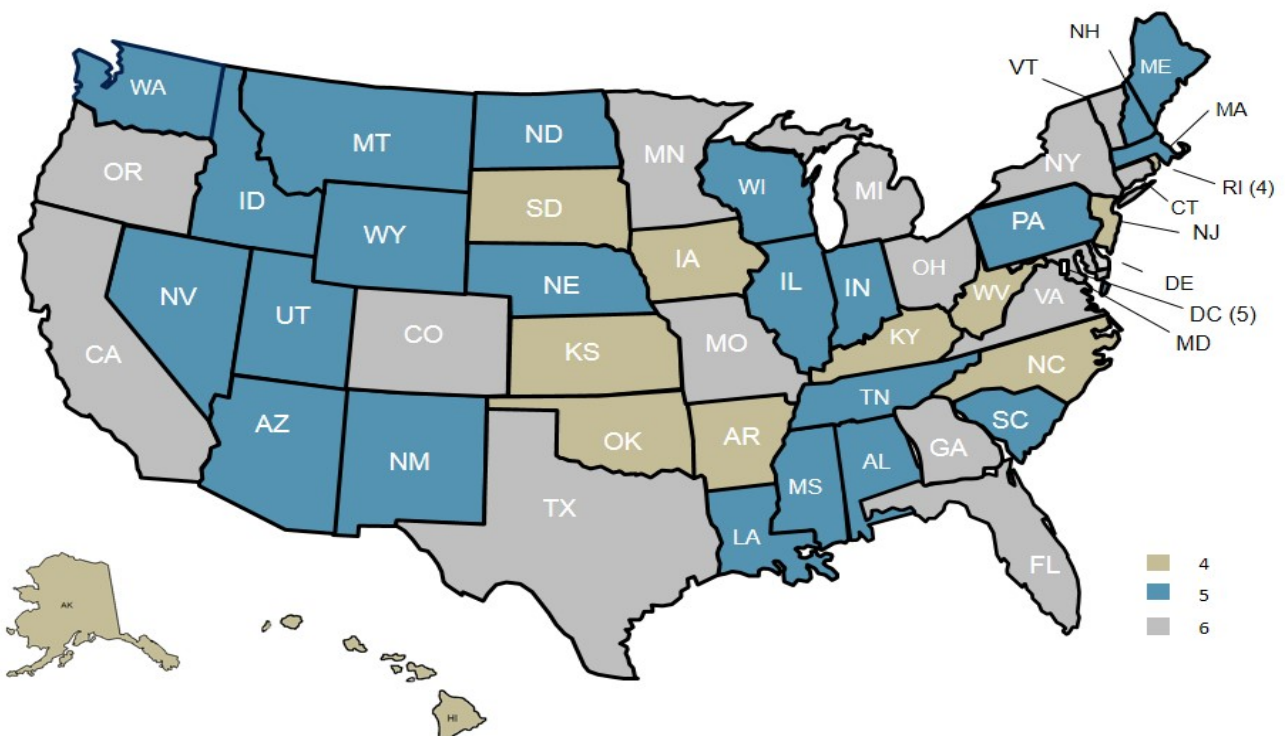
^c Zubsolv was not included in the original survey, as the medication was not FDA approved until fall of 2013. This summary reflects only information related to Preferred Drug List (PDL) and formulary inclusion obtained from pharmacy and State websites.

*In Colorado, Substance Use Disorder (SUD) counseling is a covered Medicaid benefit under FFS plans.

Beginning 2014, Medicaid will reimburse for medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder in addition to its current Substance Use Disorder benefit. This extended benefit consists of evaluation, counseling, lab testing, drug screening, and methadone administration.

Medicaid Benefits for Treatment of Opioid Dependence Nationwide

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



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