In Michigan between 2008-2012, persons enrolled in substance use treatment programs that prescribed methadone increased 13.1%. In 2012 in Michigan, 17.4% of persons aged 12 and older who met criteria for having a drug use disorder received treatment, which was similar to the national rate.

State Benefits at a Glance...

Methadone

Michigan 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. Additionally, methadone is covered for use in accredited outpatient narcotic treatment programs (NTPs) under FFS plans only.

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

Medication Limitations

Michigan Medicaid covers Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets under both FFS and MC 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.

- Treatment using Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets is limited to a 12-month period with a maximum daily dose of 24mg/day after 6 months of treatment.

- Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets require prior authorization for use.

- Zubsolv appears on Michigan Medicaid’s Preferred Drug List.

- In most cases, Zubsolv is subject to the same prior authorization requirements as the surveyed buprenorphine products.

Michigan covers Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets as a pharmacy benefit under both FFS and MC plans. None of these medications are listed on Michigan’s preferred drug list for FFS plans. Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets are covered for use in NTPs and organized specialty outpatient treatment programs (OTPs) under FFS plans only. Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets are covered in physicians offices under both FFS and MC plans.
Injectable Naltrexone (VIVITROL®)

Michigan 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 medical and pharmacy benefit under both FFS and MC plans.
- Vivitrol does not require prior authorization and does not appear on Michigan’s preferred drug list under FFS plans.
- Vivitrol is covered for use in NTPs and OTPs under FFS plans.
- Vivitrol is covered in physicians offices under both FFS and MC plans.

In June 2013, Michigan was considering Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs for all prescribers of medication for the treatment of opioid dependence.

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

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