

What is Medication Assisted Treatment?



**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
DIVISION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE**



Department of Corrections
Division of Substance Abuse
P.O. Box 2400
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-2400
Phone: 502-564-6490
Fax: 502-564-0401

Table of Contents

Opioid Addiction	1
Is your loved one Addicted to opioids.....	1
What is MAT	2
How Does MAT work	2
How can I help my loved one	3
How does Vivitrol work?.....	3
Facts about Vivitrol	4
What studies showed with participants in vivitrol program.....	5
Family support in recovery	6
How do I pay for vivitrol	7
I am interested in MAT, what do I do now?	8



Picture by: Lee County Substance abuse Program

**I am interested in Medication Assisted Treatment,
what do I do now?**

If you are interested in learning more about the Kentucky Department of Corrections, Division of Substance Abuse Medication-Assisted Treatment, please notify your officer that you are interested. Once you notify your officer, you may ask to meet with the Social Services Clinician in your area who can help guide you through the process.

You can also learn more at www.vivitrol.com

Opioid Addiction: A Chronic Disease.

Opioid addiction is a chronic disease, like ADHD, diabetes or asthma. When someone is diagnosed with a chronic disease such as diabetes or heart disease, a doctor may prescribe medication such as insulin or statins and often recommend lifestyle changes such as more exercise and a healthier diet. Treating opioid addiction also can involve a combination of medication, therapy and lifestyle changes.

The good news is that there are varieties of effective treatments for opioid addiction that will allow a person to return to a life that is healthy and addiction-free. This process is called recovery.

Is Your Loved One Addicted to Opioids?

Opioids are prescription painkillers, like OxyContin, Percocet and Vicodin, as well as the street drug heroin. One of the most important things you can do to help your loved one is to educate yourself about opioid abuse and addiction and what options there are for treatment.

What is MAT?

(Medication-assisted treatment)

Treatment usually begins with medication-assisted treatment detox to help patients manage their withdrawal symptoms safely. However, detox alone is not a treatment- it is merely the first step.

Science has taught us that when medication treatment is combined with other supportive services, patients are often able to stop abusing alcohol or drugs and return to productive lives.

“Fall seven times, stand up eight.”

How Does MAT Work? The medications used in MAT are designed to greatly reduce your cravings. They work on the same places in your body that opioids do, so you feel less of a need for those opioids. The best dose also avoids withdrawal symptoms. Naltrexone is an office base non-addictive opioid antagonist that blocks the effects of other narcotics; it can be taken daily as a tablet or as a once a month injection.

Who Is MAT Best For?

Anyone who has been diagnosed with Opioid Use Disorder should consider MAT. Talk to your provider to see if MAT is right for you.



How do I pay for Vivitrol?

Most Insurance plans cover the vivitrol injection. However, if your insurance does not cover the vivitrol injection, there is a co-pay savings option. To verify if your insurance covers vivitrol or to look for cost saving options you can visit: www.vivitrol.com

What if I don't have Insurance?

Applications for Medicaid may be filled out at your local Department of Community Based services. If you cannot come to the office to apply, you can call 855-306-8959.



Where can you get vivitrol?

To locate the provider nearest you go to www.vivitrol.com



Family Support in Recovery

The support of family and friends often plays a large role in addiction recovery. Because addiction recovery is a lifelong journey and it requires a lifelong commitment, your loved one is not just going to come home from a clinic or even an addiction rehab facility “cured” from addiction. He or she will take sobriety day-by-day, and will need to turn his or her focus towards long-term recovery. As a family member, spouse or friend, your supporting role can be crucial to helping your love one focus on his or her health and recovery.

Ways The Family Plays a Role in Recovery

- Motivation to enter and stay in treatment
- Stay Involved and Supportive
- Understand and Reduce Stress
- Offer a Safe Living Environment
- Provide Transportation

How Can I Help My Loved One?

Medication assisted treatment (MAT) is the use of medication in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies for the treatment of substance use disorder.

Medication assisted treatment (MAT) provides a “Whole person” approach to treatment of substance use disorder and can help a person stop thinking constantly about the problem drug and help reduce cravings and withdrawal. This allows the person to focus on returning to a healthy lifestyle.



How Does Vivitrol Work?

VIVITROL blocks opioid receptors in the brain while you work with the psychological aspects of counseling.

Antagonists attach to opioid receptors, but do not cause the release of dopamine. They are non-addictive and do not lead to physical dependence. Antagonists create a barrier that blocks opioid molecules from attaching to opioid receptors.

VIVITROL blocks opioid receptors in the brain for one month at a time, helping patients to prevent relapse to opioid dependence, following detox, while they focus on counseling. Patients must detox before starting VIVITROL.



Facts about Vivitrol

1. Opioid Blocker
2. HCP-Administered
3. Once Monthly Injectable/ long lasting
4. Used with Counseling
5. Non-addictive
6. Not a narcotic
7. Does require detox
8. Lowers the risk of overdose
9. Safe to undergo for months, a year, several years
10. Stopping vivitrol does not cause withdrawal

Why do you have to detox before starting Vivitrol?

Before starting VIVITROL, you must be opioid-free for a minimum of 7-14 days to avoid sudden opioid withdrawal.

What have studies shown with participants in a Vivitrol Program?

- + Had a 90% opioid free week compared to 35% with a placebo
- + Had a 55% decrease in self-reported opioid cravings. Placebo increased 3%
- + were 17 times less likely to relapse to physical dependency compared to placebo

Research conducted on Vivitrol for alcohol addiction showed that the drug reduced heavy-drinking days (five or more drinks for men, four or more drinks for women) by 92%. It also decreased the total number of drinks consumed and increased the number of abstinent days in nearly all of the patients tested.

According to the manufacturer, Vivitrol showed a 90% success rate in reducing opiate addiction over the course of a six-month clinical study they conducted. The same study showed that 55% of users reported feeling a decrease in opiate cravings and that the addicts who participated were seventeen times less likely to relapse. Additionally, the manufacturer's research showed that those who took naltrexone injections stayed in rehab for an average of 168 days longer than those who were given a placebo.

