The Kentucky Department of Corrections SAMAT Protocol is nationally recognized as a best practice and has been highlighted by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

For more information visit:

https://www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-treatment


What is SAMAT?

Supportive Assistance with Medication for Addiction Treatment

Supportive Assistance with Medication for Addiction Treatment (SAMAT) is an Addiction Services program focused on preventing overdose, relapse, and recidivism for individuals with Opioid Use Disorder and/or Alcohol Use Disorder. Through the use of the SAMAT Protocol, FDA-approved medication is integrated with traditional treatment interventions for individuals who are both clinically and medically appropriate. Medication available through SAMAT currently includes injectable extended-release naltrexone (Vivitrol®), and oral buprenorphine (Suboxone®) followed by injectable extended-release buprenorphine (Sublocade®). SAMAT is available at all 14 state institutions and 20 county jails throughout the state.

More information can be found here:

SAMAT - Department of Corrections (ky.gov)
What is the difference in a Drug and Medication?

Drug:
- The motivation to use is brain reward (Produce Euphoric effect)
- Self-Monitored, progressive loss of control with secrecy and dishonesty
- Effect is deterioration in quality of life
- Often involves violation of laws
- Congruent with other self-destructive behaviors and socially harmful behaviors
- Congruent with drug related/unhealthy social network

Medication:
- Motivation to use is to prevent/treat an illness
- Dosage, dosage scheduling, and method of administration produce steady concentration in bloodstream
- Medically monitored and maintained through open and honest communication with provider
- Effect is progressive improvement in quality of life
- Taken within laws that govern possession and use
- Congruent with health-promoting and recovery enhancing behaviors
- Congruent with pro-recovery social network

Approved Medications KYDOC offers:

**Alcohol Use Disorder**

Naltrexone (Revia/Vivitrol)
- Approved for use in Alcohol Use Disorder in 1994
- Decreases craving for alcohol and relapse to heavy drinking
- Decreases euphoric effects from alcohol and reinforcing properties
- Two Forms: Oral and Extended-Release Injection (Vivitrol)

**Opioid Use Disorder**

Buprenorphine
- Partial opioid agonist
- Oral, injectable and implant available
- Lower risk of overdose (respiratory depression ceiling)
- Controlled Substance
- Can be given in an office setting
- Prescriber must have X DEA waiver
- Less medication interactions

Who is Eligible?
- Be diagnosed with Opiate Use Disorder and/or Alcohol Use Disorder
- Have completed, or be currently assigned to, a Substance Abuse Program (SAP)
- Receive education regarding SAMAT procedures and available medications
- Have a verified release date within 60 days of beginning participation
- Be deemed clinically appropriate through a multi-step screening process
- Be deemed medically appropriate through both mental and physical health screenings