



ASAM The Voice of Addiction Medicine
American Society of Addiction Medicine

Medicaid Coverage of Medications for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder

In Arkansas between 2008-2012, persons enrolled in substance use treatment programs that prescribed methadone **increased 77.5%**. In 2012 in Arkansas, **21.4%** of persons aged 12 and older who met criteria for having a drug use disorder received treatment^a.

ARKANSAS

State Benefits at a Glance^b...

Methodone

Arkansas Medicaid does not cover methadone under Fee-for-Service (FFS) plans.

Buprenorphine/Naloxone film (Suboxone[®]), Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets (generic), Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets (Zubsolv^{®c}) and Buprenorphine tablets (generic).

Medication Limitations

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

- Patients are required to be enrolled in, or have documented proof of, SUD* counseling in order to approve these medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder.
- Treatment using Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets and buprenorphine tablets is limited to 24mg/day.
- Treatment using Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets and buprenorphine tablets is limited to 24 months.
- Buprenorphine tablets are approved for use during pregnancy.
- Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets and buprenorphine tablets require a manual review of pre-authorization for use.
- Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets and buprenorphine tablets are covered through prior approval through the Pharmacy Program for Office-based Opioid Dependence Pharmacotherapy Programs.
- Zubsolv appears on Arkansas Medicaid's Preferred Drug List.
- In most cases, Zubsolv is subject to the same prior authorization requirements as the surveyed buprenorphine products.

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

Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets are not listed on Arkansas' preferred drug list for FFS or Managed Care (MC) plans, but are covered for use in accredited outpatient narcotic treatment programs (NTPs) and in physician's offices under FFS plans.



State Benefits at a Glance (continued)...

Injectable Naltrexone (VIVITROL®)

Arkansas Medicaid provides little information on the use of injectable naltrexone (Vivitrol®) under either FFS or MC plans.

- Vivitrol **is not** listed on the state’s preferred drug list.
- Vivitrol **is not** covered in NTP settings.
- Vivitrol **is** covered in physician’s offices.

^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.

^dIn Arkansas, Substance Use Disorder (SUD) counseling is a covered benefit under FFS plans.

Medicaid Benefits for Treatment of Opioid Dependence Nationwide

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

