



**ASAM** The Voice of Addiction Medicine  
American Society of Addiction Medicine

## Medicaid Coverage of Medications for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder

In Minnesota between 2008-2012, persons enrolled in substance abuse treatment

# MINNESOTA

programs that prescribed methadone **increased 34.1%**. In 2012 in Minnesota, **14.6%** of persons aged 12 and older who met criteria for having a drug use disorder received treatment<sup>a</sup>.

### State Benefits at a Glance<sup>b</sup>...

#### Methadone

Minnesota 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. Methadone is covered as a medical benefit under MC plans and is covered for use in accredited outpatient narcotic treatment programs (NTPs) under both FFS and MC plans.

#### **Buprenorphine/Naloxone film (Suboxone<sup>®</sup>), Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets (generic), Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets (Zubsolv<sup>®c</sup>) and Buprenorphine tablets (generic).**

##### Medication Limitations

Minnesota Medicaid covers Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets under 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 are not required to be enrolled in, or have documented proof of, SUD\* counseling.
- Treatment using Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets is limited to 32mg/day after a 6-month period of usage.
- Suboxone, buprenorphine/naloxone tablets, and buprenorphine tablets require prior authorization for use.
- Zubsolv appears on Minnesota Medicaid's Non-Preferred Drug List.
- In most cases, Zubsolv is subject to the same prior authorization requirements as the surveyed buprenorphine products.

Minnesota covers Suboxone as a medical benefit and buprenorphine/naloxone tablets and buprenorphine tablets as a pharmacy benefit under FFS plans.

Suboxone, Buprenorphine/Naloxone tablets, and Buprenorphine tablets are covered for use in NTPs under both FFS and MC plans, and in physician's offices under FFS plans.



**State Benefits at a Glance (continued)...**

**Injectable Naltrexone (VIVITROL®)**

Minnesota 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 benefit under FFS plans.

Vivitrol is covered for use in NTPs under both FFS and MC plans, and in physician’s offices under FFS plans.

<sup>a</sup> Data from SAMHSA’s State and Metro Reports accessed [http://www.samhsa.gov/data/States\\_In\\_Brief\\_Reports.aspx](http://www.samhsa.gov/data/States_In_Brief_Reports.aspx)

<sup>b</sup> Data as of spring 2014.

<sup>c</sup> 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 Minnesota, substance Use Disorder (SUD) counseling is a covered Medicaid benefit under FFS plans.

**As of spring 2014, the state of Minnesota is changing the rules of licensure for NTPs.**

**Medicaid Benefits for Treatment of Opioid Dependence Nationwide**

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

