



# RESOURCES FOR OPIOID PRESCRIBERS



## **CONSIDER ALL PAIN MANAGEMENT OPTIONS BEFORE STARTING PATIENTS ON OPIOIDS**

### [CDC – Clinical Tools for Pain Management](#)

Multiple resources including opioid prescribing guidelines for chronic pain, non-opioid treatment for pain, assessing benefits and harm, and calculating dosage.

### [Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System \(CURES\)](#)

CURES was certified for statewide use by the Department of Justice on April 2, 2018. As a result, the mandate to consult CURES prior to prescribing, ordering, administering, or furnishing a Schedule II – IV controlled substance became effective on October 2, 2018. For an outstanding resource about what this means for prescribers, see the Medical Board of California's [CURES 2.0 information sheet](#).

### [Managing Chronic Non-Cancer Pain](#)

This opioid stewardship infographic provides an overview of interventions for chronic pain, standards for managing opioids when prescribed, and considerations when managing opioid use disorder.

## **RECOGNIZE WHEN AND UNDERSTAND HOW TO TAPER PATIENTS ON OPIOIDS**

### [CDC – Pocket Guide: Tapering Opioids for Chronic Pain](#)

A reference tool for when and how to taper, and important considerations for safe and effective care, including individualizing tapering plans, and minimizing symptoms of opioid withdrawal.

### [Changing the Conversation about Tapering - AIM Article](#)

This article provides considerations to discuss with patients before starting long-term therapy or increasing dosages. Additionally, the article provides evidence that patients who work with clinicians to reduce or discontinue opioid use can expect improvements in pain, function, and quality of life.

### [American Society of Addiction Medicine \(ASAM\)](#)

Clinical resources and guidelines for identifying and treating patients with substance use disorders and addiction.

### [Applying CDC's Guideline for Prescribing Opioids](#)

An interactive online training series that aims to help healthcare providers apply CDC's recommendations in clinical settings through patient scenarios, videos, knowledge checks, tips, and resources. Each stand-alone module is self-paced and offers free continuing education credit.

### [No Shortcuts to Safer Opioid Prescribing – NEJM Article](#)

This article recognizes CDC's prescribing guidelines should be followed and used to develop policies and practices that are consistent with, and do not go beyond, their recommendations.



# RESOURCES FOR OPIOID PRESCRIBERS



## **OFFER MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT)**

### [SAMHSA – MAT Certification and Training Programs \(how to become X-Waivered\)](#)

This resource provides medication assisted treatment information and training resources for physicians, researchers, pharmacists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and patients.

### [The California Substance Use Line – \(844\) 326-2626, open 24/7, every day](#)

A free, 24/7 teleconsultation service for California physicians, nurses, and other clinicians with questions about substance use treatment. The line is open to any clinician in California and is a collaboration between the Clinician Consultation Center and the California Poison Control System.

### [DHCS – California MAT Expansion Project Resources](#)

The California MAT Expansion Project aims to increase access to MAT, reduce unmet treatment need, and reduce opioid overdose related deaths through the provision of prevention, treatment, and recovery activities. This webpage includes resources such as toolkits and video trainings.

### [UC Davis Health – Project ECHO](#)

(Extension for Community Health Care Outcomes) Aims to develop the capacity of primary care clinicians to safely and effectively manage chronic pain within their communities. A multidisciplinary team of specialists support participating primary care clinicians through weekly peer-to-peer video conferences.

### [SAMHSA – FREE MAT Treatment of Opioids Use Disorder Pocket Guide](#)

This guide is for physicians using medication assisted treatment for patients with opioid use disorder. It discusses various types of approved medications, screening and assessment tools, and best practices for patient care.

### [CHCF – MAT Webinar Training Series](#)

The California Society of Addiction Medicine (CSAM) produced these webinars on a range of topics from the practical (induction on buprenorphine) to the administrative (understanding the regulatory and legal environment), and offers continuing education credit.

## **PROVIDE REFERRALS TO MAT AND ADDICTION RECOVERY PROGRAMS (LOCATOR TOOLS)**

### [DHCS – Treatment Services Locator](#)

A confidential and anonymous treatment facility locator for persons seeking treatment in California for substance use/addiction and/or mental health services.

### [CDPH – Directory of Syringe Services Programs in California](#)

A directory of syringe programs in California that provide clean syringes, needles, etc. These services help prevent the spread of infectious diseases including HIV, Hepatitis C, etc. and other helpful [Harm Reduction Resources](#).



# RESOURCES FOR OPIOID PRESCRIBERS



## **LEARN ABOUT CALIFORNIA'S STRATEGIC, MULTI-PRONGED APPROACH**

### [California's Approach to the Opioid Epidemic](#)

The State of California, working in partnership with health care, academia, philanthropy, and at the community level, has taken a collective action approach and built a structure, anchored by the Statewide Opioid Safety (SOS) Workgroup, to track the epidemic and pivot policy and programmatic interventions to address the changing realities of addiction in the state. This site provides information about the SOS Workgroup, California's broad approach to address the epidemic, state and county level opioid-related data, and resources.