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This version replaces prior versions of CI 20-057.

The following highlights assistance available for families affected by substance use during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP)

Contact your local PIHP access line to refer a client to substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery services. Although the PIHP offices are closed, the access lines have been redirected to staff for continued screening and referrals. Access lines will have the most up to date treatment options available during this time. The numbers can be found here, https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71550_2941_4871_29887-151431--,00.html. Non-face-to-face recovery support options are also included in this guidance and can be shared with individuals in recovery.

Telemedicine

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has encouraged providers to utilize telemedicine, where appropriate, to continue care while facilitating social distancing. Michigan's Medicaid program has expanded access to telemedicine by allowing Medicaid beneficiaries to receive services in their home. In addition, insurance plans like Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Blue Care Network of Michigan, Priority Health, Meridian, CVS Health, McLaren, and Health Alliance Plan have announced they will cover the use of virtual care and telemedicine.

For providers offering medication-assisted treatment using controlled substances (e.g., methadone or buprenorphine), the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has clarified that telemedicine may be used to satisfy the requirement for an in-person visit before issuing a controlled substance

prescription during a federally-declared public health emergency. While the public health emergency remains in effect, guidance states that “DEA-registered practitioners may issue prescriptions for controlled substances to patients for whom they have not conducted an in-person medical evaluation, provided all of the following conditions are met:

- The prescription is issued for a legitimate medical purpose by a practitioner acting in the usual course of his/her professional practice.
- The telemedicine communication is conducted using an audio-visual, real-time, two-way interactive communication system.
- The practitioner is acting in accordance with applicable Federal and State law.”

Residential Treatment

Consistent with [Executive Order 2020-72](#), residential treatment facilities will assess for COVID-19 symptoms and risk factors for all individuals seeking entry into their facilities. The facilities must deny entry to any individual with these symptoms or risk factors. These restrictions remain in place through May 31, 2020 and may be extended based on subsequent Executive Orders rescinding Executive Order 2020-72.

Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs)

The federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has issued guidance permitting “blanket exceptions” to provide 14 or 28 days of take-home medication to OTP patients, depending on stability in treatment. MDHHS has provided a blanket exception in line with SAMHSA guidance.

Treating Acute Withdrawal with Buprenorphine

Given potential emergent needs during the COVID-19 response, under the “three-day rule,” any practitioner may administer buprenorphine to a patient for the purpose of relieving acute withdrawal symptoms while arranging for the patient’s referral for treatment. This includes practitioners not separately registered as a narcotic treatment program or certified as a waived DATA 2000 physician. The following conditions apply:

- Not more than one day’s medication may be administered or given to a patient at one time.
- Treatment may not be carried out for more than 72 hours.
- The 72-hour period cannot be renewed or extended.

COVID-19 Information and Resources

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/> and <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Additional Recovery Support Options

While in person treatment options have been reduced, the following options may be offered to assist clients:

By Phone: (Use link below to find the day and number that works best for you.)

<http://aaphonemeetings.org/>

<http://www.nabyphone.com/>

Online:

<https://www.smartrecovery.org/community/> (Registration required for access.)

<https://www.aa-intergroup.org/>

<https://www.intherooms.com/home/>

<https://www.myrecovery.com/online-meeting/>

<https://www.neveraloneclub.org/> (Online NA meetings.)

Podcasts:

Mother Recovering: <https://motherrecovering.com/listen/>

This Naked Mind: <https://thisnakedmind.com/category/podcast/>

Recovery Elevator: <https://www.recoveryelevator.com/podcasts/>

Sober Girl's Guide: <https://asobergirlsguide.com/podcast>

That Sober Guy: <https://www.thatsoberguy.com/podcast>

YouTube Videos:

[AA Speakers](#)

[NA Speakers](#)

[Celebrate Recovery](#)

[SMART Recovery](#)

Helpful Apps:

[AA Big Book](#)

NA Speakers – [Apple](#); [Google](#)

[Celebrate Recovery](#)

[Recovery Path](#)

[Sober Tool](#)

[7 Cups of Tea](#)

[Connections \(a CHESS Platform\)](#)