

**The Opioid Epidemic in Philadelphia**  
*Implementation of the*  
*Mayor's Task Force Recommendations*

Presented to the  
Mayor's Commission on Addiction and Recovery

January 9, 2019

## Introduction

On May 19, 2017, Mayor James Kenney's *Task Force to Combat the Opioid Epidemic in Philadelphia* released its final report and recommendations. The 18 recommendations – organized by Prevention and Education, Treatment, Overdose Prevention and Criminal Justice – provide actionable, evidence-based steps the City and its partners can take to reduce the harmful effects of opioids in our community.

The importance of these recommendations cannot be overstated. This epidemic continues to claim Philadelphians' lives every day. Over 1,200 people died from drug overdoses in Philadelphia in 2017, an increase from 907 deaths the year prior and more than three times the number of homicides.<sup>1</sup> Thousands of Philadelphia residents had non-fatal overdoses, while an estimated 469,000 people used a prescription opioid in the past year.<sup>2</sup> Addressing the crisis has been, and continues to be, one of the City's top priorities.

The Task Force resulted in new targeted efforts and opportunities, and implementation of the recommendations is underway across the city. Since the final report was released, progress has been made on all 18 recommendations and the City has provided quarterly updates to the Mayor's Commission on Addiction and Recovery, the group designated to provide feedback to and oversight of the City's efforts.

This report summarizes the progress made towards full implementation of the recommendations. Previous quarterly reports made to the Mayor's Commission on Addiction and Recovery can be found at: <http://www.phila.gov/opioids>

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<sup>1</sup> Medical Examiner's Office, Philadelphia Department of Public Health.

<sup>2</sup> Philadelphia Department of Public Health. Prescription Opioid and Benzodiazepine Use in Philadelphia, 2017. CHART 2017;2(9):1-6.

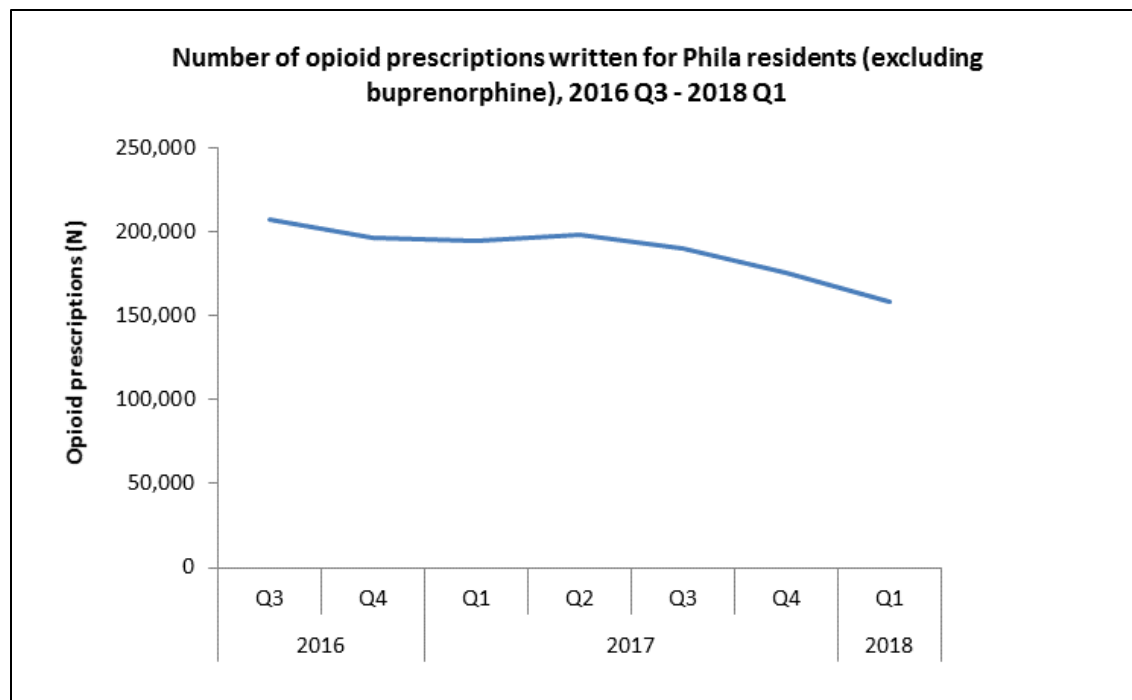
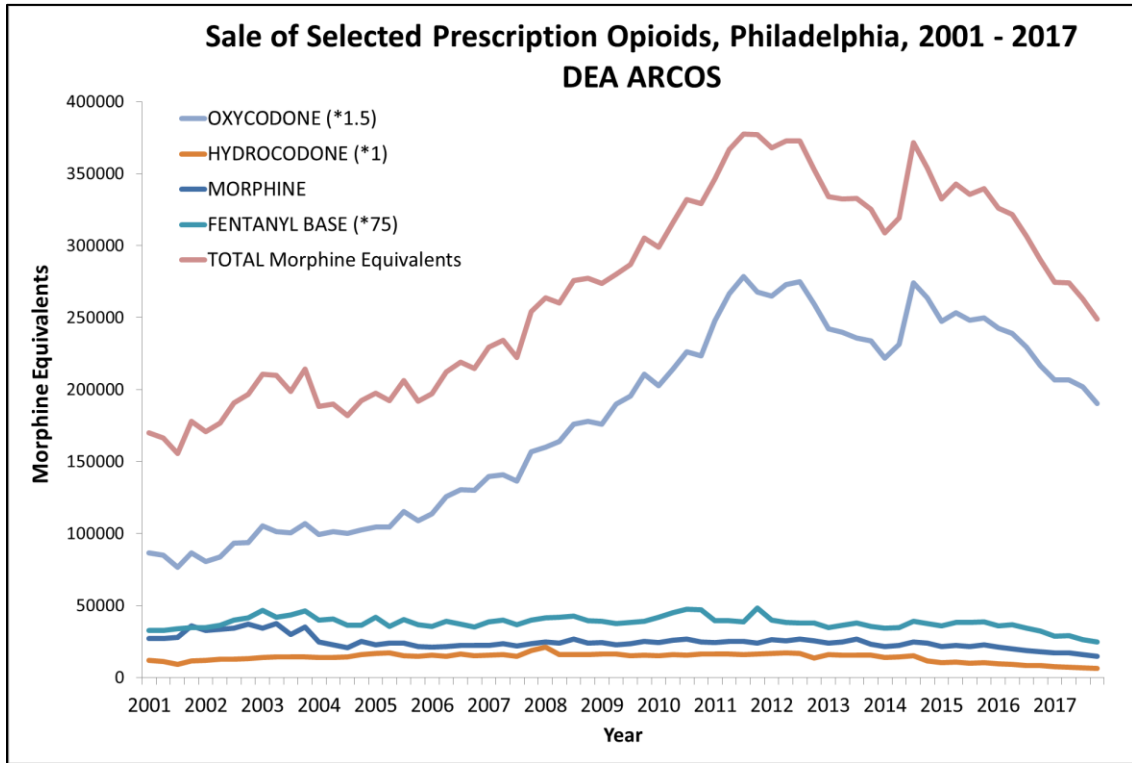
	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Progress Highlight</b>
<b>PREVENTION AND EDUCATION</b>	Conduct a consumer directed media campaign about opioid risks	Two waves of “Don’t Take the Risk” ( <a href="http://www.donttaketherisk.com">www.donttaketherisk.com</a> ) have been shown on TV and social media.
	Conduct a public education campaign about naloxone	A campaign encouraging people to carry naloxone was recently on billboards, bus shelters and public transit, and on social media.
	Destigmatize opioid use disorder and its treatment	DBHIDS and PDPH are planning a medication-assisted treatment (MAT) media campaign focusing on buprenorphine and targeting adults who are considering seeking treatment.
	Improve health care professional education	In collaboration with surgeons from across the city, PDPH developed new postoperative opioid prescribing guidelines. These emphasize that most pills prescribed after surgery are unused, and that there are non-opioid treatments that are as effective as and much safer than opioid painkillers.
	Establish insurance policies that support safer opioid prescribing and appropriate treatment	Beginning September 2018, public and private health insurers adopted more uniform prior authorization policies to reduce the overprescribing of prescription opioids.
<b>TREATMENT</b>	Increase the provision of medication-assisted treatment (MAT)	DBHIDS issued three policies to its provider network to increase and incentivize education, individual choice, and availability of MAT. MAT policies went into effect as of 7/1/2018 and will be implemented through 1/1/2020. MAT inductions continue to occur in three Emergency Departments. An e-learning training on MAT is being developed for the broader system. 183 prescribers have been trained through Buprenorphine Waiver Trainings hosted in partnership with DBHIDS, PDPH, and SAMHSA ATTC.
	Expand treatment access and capacity	The web-based treatment availability database is being finalized. Temple Episcopal Crisis Response Center has hired staff and will begin renovations to increase the physical space in February, which will expand its capacity to engage, assess, and treat individuals with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). Recent bulletins and policies issued to the DBHIDS provider network have increased access by removing barriers. NET Access Point continues to accept members with a full range of substance use disorders and withdrawal symptoms for assessment, stabilization, and referral to appropriate level of care with warm hand-off. The Mobile Outreach Program which DBHIDS supports through Merakey is engaging individuals daily in Kensington and utilizing innovative approaches, including Uber Health. CBH Member Services and two certified peer specialists from DBHIDS are onsite weekly at the Mural Arts Storefront in Kensington.
	Embed withdrawal management into all levels of care, with an emphasis on recovery initiation	A pilot to incorporate withdrawal management into the Journey of Hope Project has been approved. The program hired a medical director and is pending a DEA license and physical modifications. DBHIDS is exploring moving forward with an ambulatory stabilization program at University of Pennsylvania Health System. In response to the State’s commitment to transition to American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Criteria, since May 31, 2018, DBHIDS has held (26) 2-day ASAM Skills Building trainings and (1) 3-day Implementation Leader training. More than half of the provider system has been trained to date. Additional trainings will be offered through March 2019. MAT policies and ASAM Criteria implementation will be effective 1/2020, which will recognize and increase availability of withdrawal management.
	Implement “warm handoffs” to treatment after overdose	Discussions have begun with multiple hospitals to support warm hand-offs as a part of a new Pay for Performance Initiative. A second meeting was held with in-network behavioral health providers in the Kensington area to facilitate warm hand-offs and foster referral relationships. The ROSE Project was expanded to Temple Main and now includes four Certified Recovery Specialists (CRS) and one supervisor between the Episcopal and Main campuses. DBHIDS has deployed CRS in the community through PRO-ACT targeting individuals presenting to acute medical settings with opioid related issues.

	Provide safe housing, recovery, and vocational supports	Halfway House capacity will be increased with 3 new specialty programs serving transition age youth, women with children, and Spanish speaking women. First Step Staffing has secured full-time positions for 59 individuals with a history of homelessness, substance use, and/or incarceration. The DBHIDS Funded Recovery House Network will be expanding capacity in two phases, the first phase has begun in January 2019.
	Incentivize providers to enhance the quality of substance abuse disorder screening, treatment, and workforce	The monthly MAT Learning Collaborative launched by DBHIDS continues to run in accordance with the MAT policies to be implemented 1/2020. DBHIDS has had great success working with two outpatient treatment programs and the Beck Community Initiative over the past year to implement Cognitive Behavioral Therapy.
<b>OVERDOSE PREVENTION AND HARM REDUCTION</b>	Expand naloxone availability	The City continues to identify new partners who are distributing naloxone to high-risk populations. Since the Task Force, the City has distributed over 70,000 doses of naloxone and trained over 2,000 individuals in overdose education and naloxone use. Information about naloxone can be found at <a href="http://www.phillynaloxone.com">http://www.phillynaloxone.com</a> .
	Further explore overdose prevention sites	The City has identified Safehouse, a nonprofit organization, that will provide overdose prevention services, including operating a medically supervised consumption room. The City is assisting Safehouse in finding funding and securing a location, as well as addressing the legal issues and meeting with stakeholders and community members.
	Establish a coordinated rapid response to "outbreaks"	A city-wide rapid response protocol has been drafted by PDPH, DBHIDS and the Philadelphia Police Department (PPD). The team continues to work on building community support pre and post surge events, as well as working with Prevention Point to develop a staffed mobile van to respond to surge events when they occur.
	Address homelessness among opioid users	DBHIDS has been deploying additional outreach teams to help individuals experiencing homelessness in the Kensington area. Multiple additional resources have been provided including mobile engagement teams (PHMC, NET, Gaudenzia, Merakey, Wedge, Pathways to Housing, ODAAT, peers from the Journey of Hope Project, Consumer Satisfaction Team, Clean Slate, Prevention Point Philadelphia and more), as well as additional support including General Assistance, identification, and transportation assistance. 64 individuals experiencing homelessness from Journey of Hope and Safe Haven programs have now been matched to supportive housing for people with disabilities (Section 811 subsidies). 20 individuals experiencing homelessness from Journey of Hope, Safe Havens, and DBH-Funded Recovery Houses have been matched to the second round of Shallow Rent Subsidies.
<b>INVOLVEMENT OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM</b>	Expand capacity for diversion to treatment	The Office of Criminal Justice, DBHIDS, the First Judicial District, the District Attorney's Office, and the Defender Association are examining existing court-based diversion programs to determine the expansion or creation of a new program that can most effectively address opioid use disorder. Police Assisted Diversion (PAD) launched a pilot, operating out of a subsection of the 24th police district in November 2018. In early 2019, PAD will expand to 24/7 in the entire 24th district. Prevention Point is serving as the initial service provider, and, like in PAD-North, social referrals are outpacing arrest referrals by 2:1. There have been no-rearrests in East, while in North, after one year, the recidivism rate is only 4%.
	Expand enforcement capacity in key areas	The Philadelphia Police Department began a weekly meeting called the "Huddle" involving all city, state and federal narcotics enforcement agencies that are working in East Division. Active investigations are discussed to ensure greater enforcement impact specifically in this area. PPD has prioritized its federal task force work in East Division with many ongoing joint narcotics investigations with the Drug Enforcement Agency, Alcohol-Tobacco-Firearms (ATF), and FBI. In December 2018, twenty additional officers were added to the Narcotic Strike Force to concentrate primarily in the East Division.
	Provide substance use disorder assessment and treatment in the Philadelphia Department of Prisons (PDP)	All inmates receiving Medication Assisted Treatment with methadone or buprenorphine are also offered cognitive behavioral therapy. PDP will begin offering vivitrol in January. In November PDP and PDPH initiated a process that allows a partner pharmacy to provide and bill for naloxone for MA insured patients upon release, which is a step towards sustainability.

**Graphs of Core Task Force Metrics from the  
Opioid Misuse and Overdose Report, Philadelphia, PA  
(updated November 2018)**

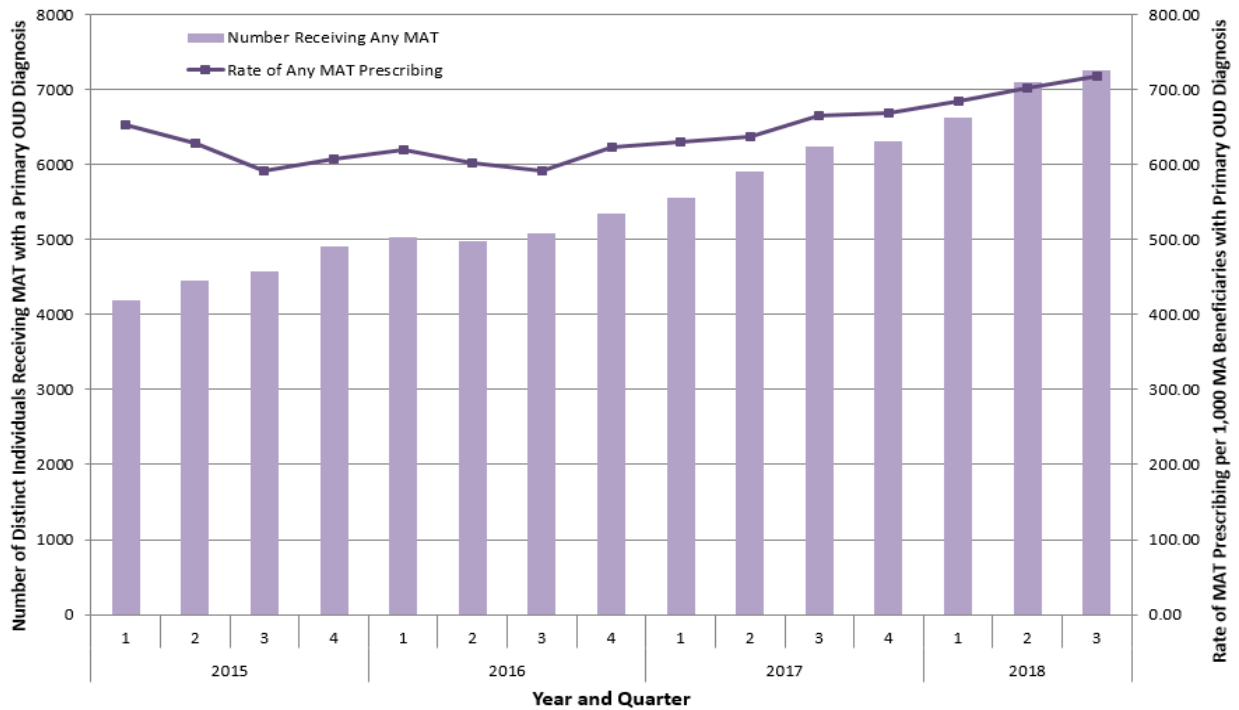
Additional data can be found on the City's opioid website: <http://www.phila.gov/opioids>

**PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS**

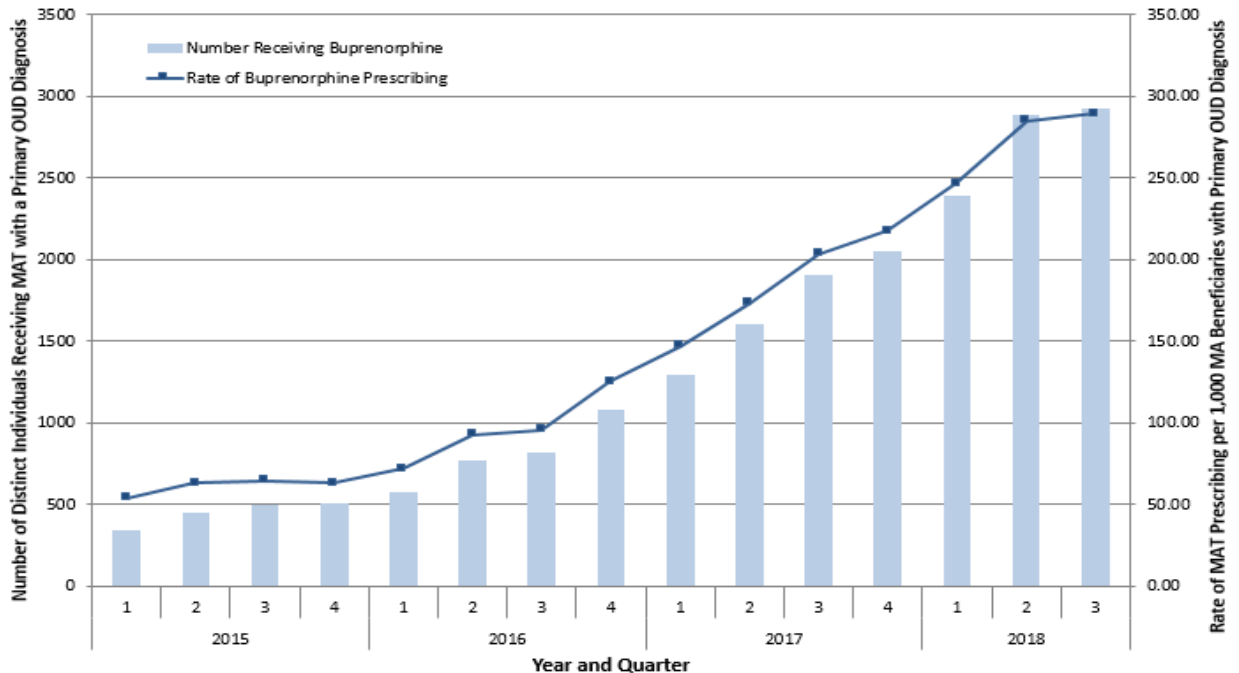


## TREATMENT

**Number and Rate of Medication Assisted Treatment (Any Medication) for Distinct Medicaid Beneficiaries with a Primary OUD Diagnosis, Philadelphia, Q1 2015 - Q3 2018**

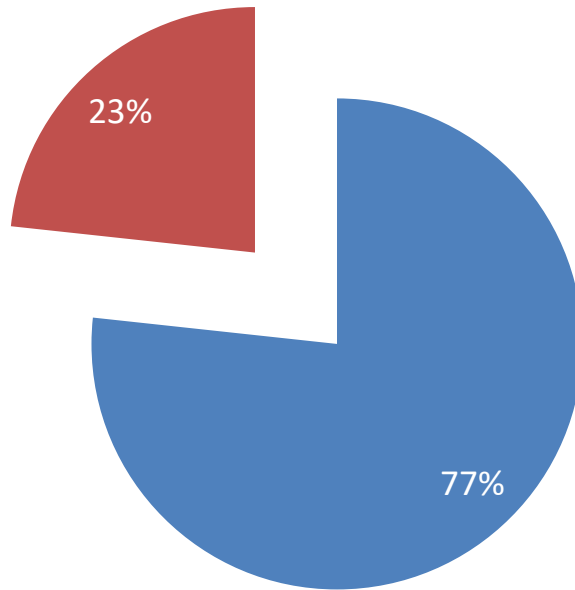


**Number and Rate of Buprenorphine Prescribing for Distinct Medicaid Beneficiaries with a Primary Diagnosis OUD, Philadelphia, Q1 2015 - Q3 2018**



### Philadelphia DBHIDS In-Network Medication Assisted Treatment Capacity, as of 12/28/2018

■ In use ■ Available



Total DBHIDS In-Network MAT Program Capacity (any medication) = **12,479** slots.

**2,906 MAT slots are available** as of 12/28/2018.

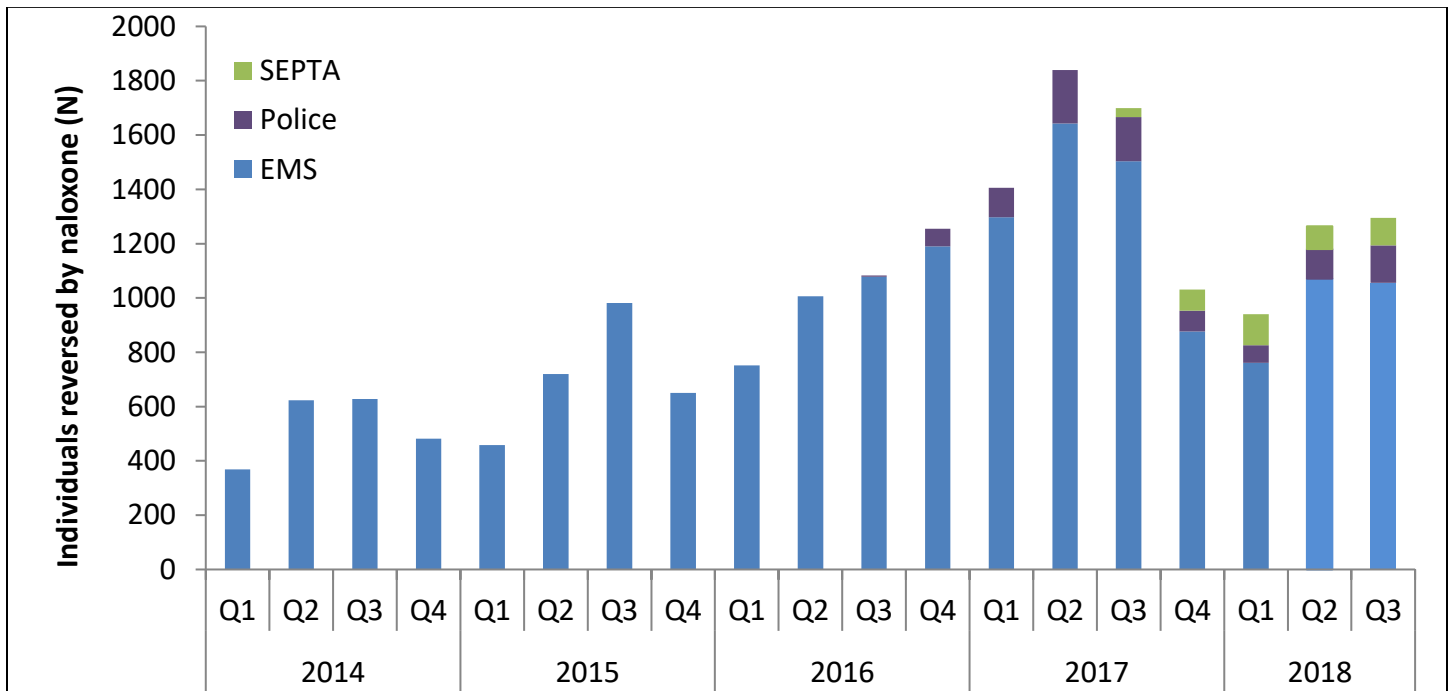
# NALOXONE

## Naloxone doses distributed

Since July 1, 2017, the City has distributed **70,458 doses of naloxone** to law enforcement agencies and other organizations:

- **Providers and Community Organizations:** 52,412 doses
- **Criminal justice organizations:** 11,558 doses
- **EMS, Philadelphia Police Department and SEPTA Police:** 6,488 doses

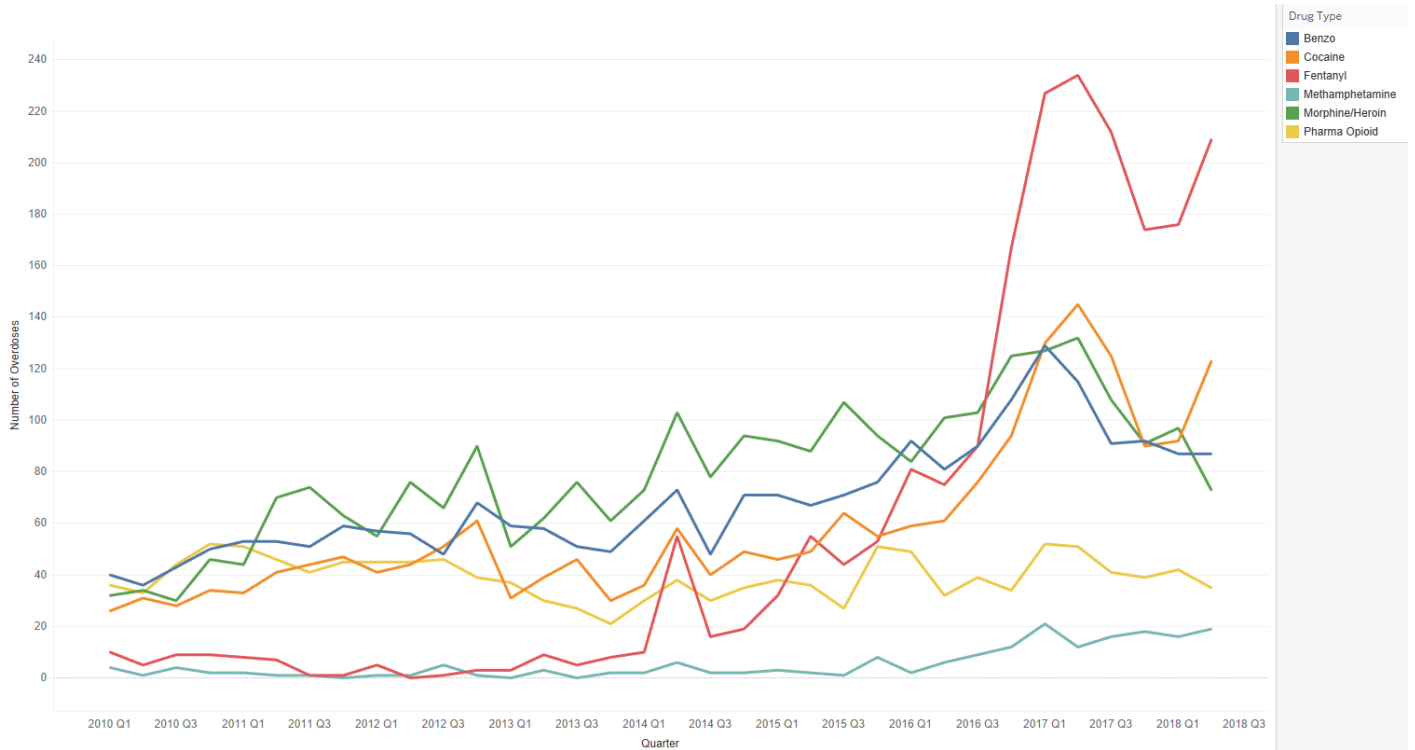
## Naloxone doses administered by first responders by quarter, 2014 – Q3 2018



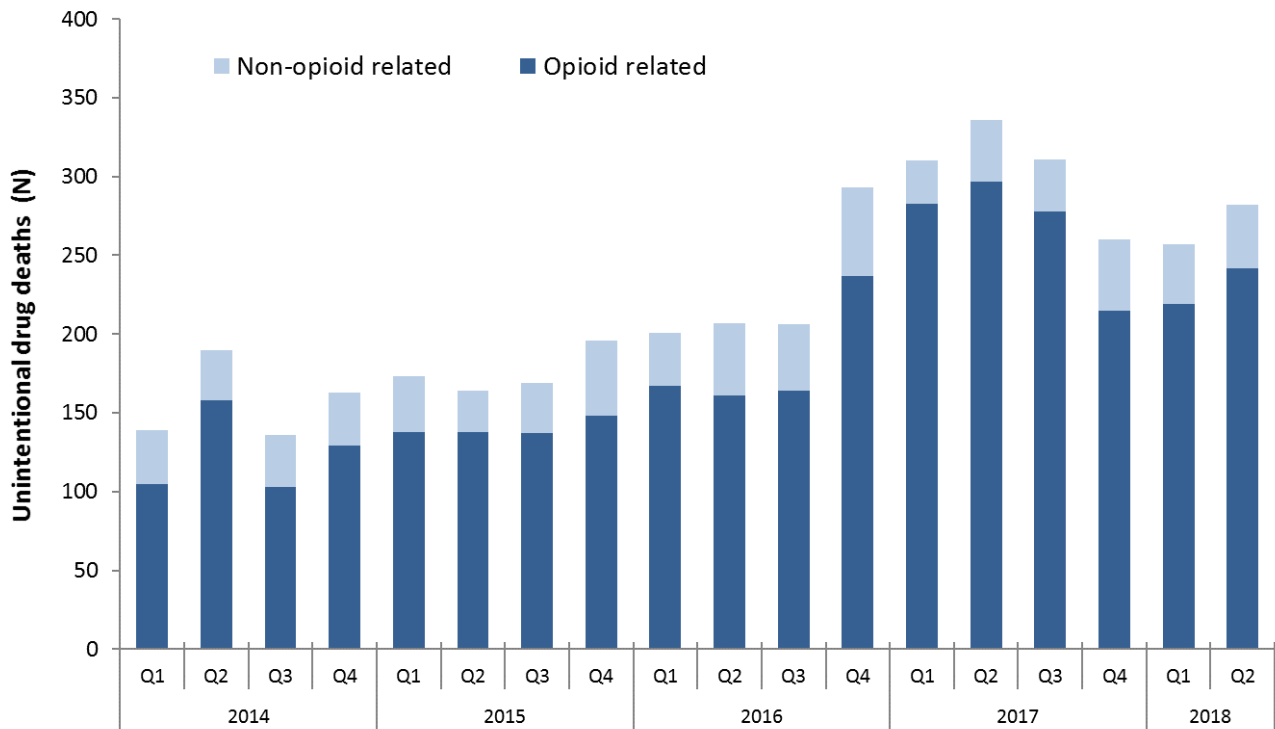


# FATAL OVERDOSE

## Number of Opioid Related Deaths with Specific Drug Present by Quarter, 2010 – Q2 2018

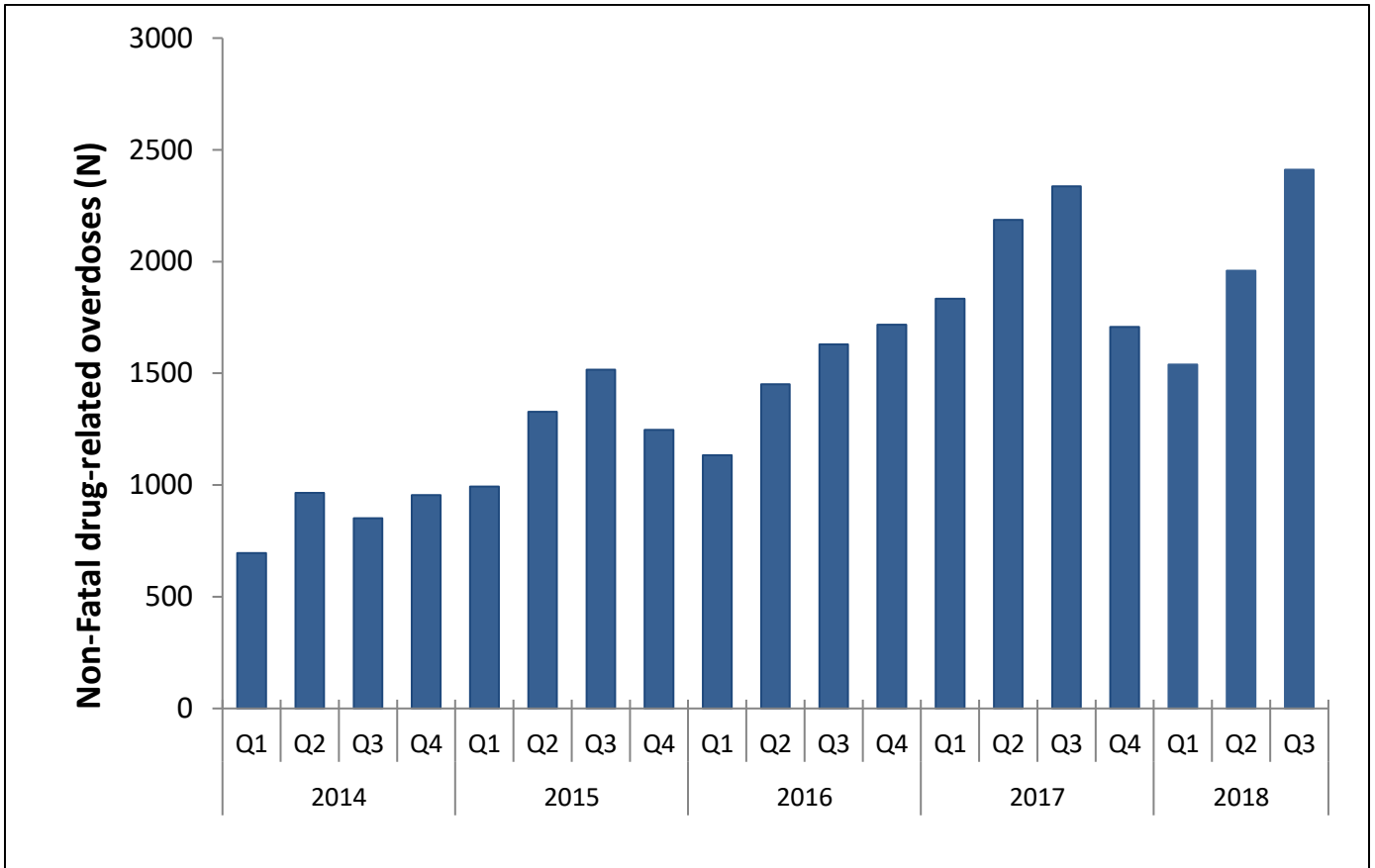


## Number of Drug-Related Overdose Deaths by Quarter, 2014 – Q2 2018



## NON-FATAL OVERDOSE

Number of ED Visits for Drug-Related Overdoses by Quarter, 2014 – Q3 2018



# ACCESSING TREATMENT

## CALL CBH MEMBER SERVICES

Call **1-888-545-2600** 24/7 365 days/year to gain assistance with accessing publicly funded Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment and services.

Community Behavioral Health (CBH) manages behavioral health services for Philadelphia residents enrolled in Medicaid and can also assist you if you are uninsured or not sure of your insurance coverage.

Other common Philadelphia insurers:

**Medicare:** 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)

**Magellan Healthcare:** 1-800-688-1911

**Behavioral Health Special Initiative (BHSI):** 215-546-1200

## WHAT TO EXPECT

### Treatment Begins with an Assessment:

Addiction professionals use criteria to help determine the setting and intensity that will help you achieve the best outcomes. The Pennsylvania Client Placement Criteria (PCPC) and American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Criteria are the criteria most frequently used to determine medical necessity.

### Residential and Hospital Treatment:

If the evaluator determines that residential treatment would help achieve the best results for you, they will contact your insurer to obtain approval to move forward with treatment and help you find and get to a facility that can provide the rehabilitation, detoxification/withdrawal management, or hospital based treatment that is appropriate.

### Community Based and Outpatient Treatment:

Many people can and do recover from their addiction with the support of an outpatient treatment program. For outpatient treatment, contacting your insurer is the best way to find a convenient option.

There are three levels of outpatient treatment:

- traditional outpatient
- intensive outpatient
- partial hospitalization programs.

These programs combine counseling with medication to help individuals reduce symptoms and triggers of addiction, while strengthening a person's ability to cope with cravings. The main difference between levels is the intensity and frequency of treatment visits. If you are currently enrolled in a community treatment program, they can also assess you for additional needs, such as residential treatment. *See the attached list of community treatment programs.*



If you are uninsured, covered by Medicaid/CBH, or not sure of your insurance coverage, contact CBH Member Services at 1-888-545-2600 24/7, 365 days/year to gain assistance with accessing publicly funded SUD treatment and services.

In the event of a medical emergency, please call 911 and present to the nearest emergency room.

## WHERE TO GO FOR AN ASSESSMENT

**NET Access Point** 844-533-8200 or 215-408-4987

499 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite B, Philadelphia, PA 19123

[www.netcenters.org](http://www.netcenters.org)

Open 24 hours/day and 7 days/week. Offering Buprenorphine & Vivitrol Induction

### Crisis Response Centers

**Friends Hospital** 4641 Roosevelt Blvd. (215) 831-2600

**Mercy Hospital** 501 S. 54<sup>th</sup> St. (215) 748-9525

**Einstein Medical Center** 5501 Old York Rd. (215) 951-8300

**Pennsylvania Hospital (Hall Mercer)** 800 Spruce St. (215) 829-5433

**Temple/Episcopal Hospital** 100 E. Lehigh Ave. (215) 707-2577

**Philadelphia Children's Crisis Response Center**

3300 Henry Ave. Falls Two Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. (215) 878-2600

### Pathways to Recovery (PHMC) Partial Hospitalization

2301 East Allegheny Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19134

215-731-2404 - English/Spanish. Buprenorphine & Vivitrol Induction

### Nearest Substance Use Disorder Treatment Provider

*See attached list of community treatment programs*



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In the event of a medical emergency, please call 911 and present to the nearest emergency room.

# DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND INTELLECTUAL dISABILITY SERVICES

## IN-NETWORK ADULT COMMUNITY MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT) PROGRAMS

Provider & Contact Info	MAT	Additional Information
<b>ADDICTION MEDICINE AND HEALTH ADVOCATES (AMHA)</b> 928 MARKET ST, 19107 (215)923-4204	MMT induction	IOP/ OP English/ Spanish; child care on site
<b>ASOCIACION PUERTORRIQUENOS EN MARCHA (APM)</b> 4301 RISING SUN AVE, PHILA, 19140 (267)296-7200	Buprenorphine induction	IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site English/ Spanish
<b>BELMONT BEHAVIORAL HOSPITAL</b> 4200 MONUMENT ROAD, 19131 (877)418-7923	Buprenorphine maintenance Vivitrol	IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site English/ Spanish; child care on site
<b>CHANCES- PHILA HEALTH MGMT CORP (PHMC)</b> 1200 CALLOWHILL ST, SUITE 102, 19123 (215)825-8220	Buprenorphine induction Vivitrol	IOP/ OP English; females only, child care on site
<b>COMHAR</b> 2055 E. ALLEGHENY AVE, 19134 (215)427-5800	Buprenorphine induction	OP; MH Tx on-site English/ Spanish
<b>THE CONSORTIUM</b> 451 S. UNIVERSITY AVE, 19104 (215)596-8000	MMT induction Vivitrol	IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site English/ Spanish; child care on site
<b>DREXEL MEDICINE CARING TOGETHER CLINIC</b> 4700 WISSAHICKON AVE, 19144 (215)967-2130	Buprenorphine/Vivitrol maintenance	OP English; females only, child care on site
<b>GAUDENZIA OUTREACH I</b> 1306 SPRING GARDEN ST, 19123 215-238-2150	Vivitrol	IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site English/ Spanish
<b>GAUDENZIA-DRC</b> 3200 HENRY AVE, 19129 215-991-9700	Vivitrol	IOP/ OP English
<b>INTERIM HOUSE, INC. - PHMC</b> 333 W. UPSAL ST, 19139 215-849-4606	Buprenorphine induction Vivitrol	IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site English/ Spanish
<b>JEVS HUMAN SERVICES - ACT I</b> 5820 OLD YORK ROAD, 19141	MMT induction	IOP/ OP English
<b>JEVS HUMAN SERVICES - ACT II</b> 1745 N. 4TH ST, 19122 (215)236-0100	MMT induction	IOP/ OP English/ Spanish
<b>JOHN F. KENNEDY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER (JFK)</b> 907 N. BROAD ST, 19123 (215)567-2469	MMT induction	OP; MH Tx on-site English
<b>KENSINGTON HOSPITAL</b> 136 DIAMOND ST, 19122 (215)426-8100	MMT induction	OP English
<b>MERAKEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</b> 5000 PARKSIDE AVE, 19131 215-879-6116	Buprenorphine induction MMT induction & Vivitrol	IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site English
<b>MERAKEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</b> 5429 GERMANTOWN AVE, 19144 215-754-0240	Buprenorphine induction MMT induction & Vivitrol	IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site English
<b>MERAKEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</b> 4806 FRANKFORD AVE, 2ND FL, 19124 215-533-6204	Buprenorphine induction Vivitrol	IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site English
<b>MERAKEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</b> 11082 KNIGHTS ROAD, 19154	Buprenorphine induction Vivitrol	IOP/ OP English
<b>NORTH PHILA HEALTH SYSTEM - GOLDMAN CLINIC</b> 801 W. GIRARD AVE, 19122 215-787-2000	MMT induction Vivitrol	IOP/ OP English/ Spanish
<b>NORTHEAST COMMUNITY CNTR FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</b> 4641 ROOSEVELT BLVD, 19124 215-831-2830	Vivitrol	OP; MH Tx on-site English
<b>NORTHEAST TREATMENT CENTERS (NET)</b> 499 N. 5TH ST, 19123 (215)451-7100	Buprenorphine induction Vivitrol	IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site English
<b>NORTHEAST TREATMENT CENTERS (NET)</b> 2205 BRIDGE ST, 19137 (215)286-5490	Buprenorphine induction MMT induction & Vivitrol	IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site English

# DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND INTELLECTUAL **dis**ABILITY SERVICES

## IN-NETWORK ADULT COMMUNITY MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT) PROGRAMS

Provider & Contact Info	MAT	Additional Information
<b>NORTHEAST TREATMENT CENTERS (NET)</b> 7520 STATE ROAD, 19136 (215)831-6024	Buprenorphine induction MMT induction & Vivitrol	IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site English; child care on site
<b>PATHWAYS TO HOUSING</b> 5201 OLD YORK ROAD, SUITE 108, 19141 (215)390-6187	Buprenorphine induction Vivitrol	*Center of Excellence English/ Spanish; Housing Assistance
<b>PATHWAYS TO RECOVERY (PHMC)</b> 2301 EAST ALLEGHENY AVE, 19134 (215)731-2402	Vivitrol & Buprenorphine MMT clinic coordination	Partial Hospital Program; MH Tx on-site English/ Spanish
<b>PENN MEDICINE PRESBYTERIAN MEDICAL CENTER</b> 3910 POWELTON AVE, 5TH FL, 19104 (215)662-8742	Buprenorphine induction	*Center of Excellence; IOP/ OP English/ Spanish
<b>PENN MEDICINE MOTHERS MATTER PROGRAM</b> 3400 SPRUCE ST, 1 WEST GATES, 19104 (215)573-8882	Buprenorphine induction	*Center of Excellence; Pregnant Women English
<b>PHMC CARE CLINIC MAT PROGRAM</b> 1200 CALLOWHILL ST, 1st Floor, 19123 267-398-0247	Buprenorphine induction Vivitrol	*Center of Excellence; Health Care Center English/ Spanish; PCP
<b>PREVENTION POINT</b> 2913-2915 KENSINGTON AVE, 19134	Buprenorphine induction Vivitrol	*Center of Excellence; Harm Reduction Svcs English/ Spanish
<b>PROJECT HOME</b> 1515 FAIRMOUNT AVE, 19104 (215)320-6187 x5756	Buprenorphine induction Vivitrol	*Center of Excellence; Housing Assistance English
<b>SOAR CORP</b> 9150 MARSHALL ST, SUITE 2, 19114 (215)464-4450	MMT induction	OP English
<b>THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY FAMILY CENTER</b> 1233 LOCUST ST, SUITE 201, 19107 (215)955-8577	MMT induction	*Center of Excellence (MATER); IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site Females only, pregnancy, child care on site; English
<b>THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY (NARP)</b> 21 <sup>ST</sup> & WASHINGTON AVE, 19147 (215)735-5979	MMT induction	*Center of Excellence; IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site English/Spanish
<b>TEMPLE TWO Program</b> 3401 N BROAD ST, 19140 (215)707-3008	Buprenorphine induction	*Center of Excellence, partners with the Wedge MC OB- GYN Svcs
<b>WEDGE MEDICAL CENTER</b> 3609 N. BROAD ST, 19140 (215)223-1100	Buprenorphine induction Vivitrol	*Center of Excellence, partners with Temple TWO English/ Spanish; IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site
<b>WEDGE MEDICAL CENTER</b> 2009 S. BROAD ST, 19148 (215)271-2200	Buprenorphine induction Vivitrol	*Center of Excellence, partners with Temple TWO English; IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site
<b>WEDGE MEDICAL CENTER</b> 4243 FRANKFORD AVE, 19124 (215)744-3600	Buprenorphine induction Vivitrol	*Center of Excellence, partners with Temple TWO English; IOP/ OP; MH Tx on-site

Call 1-888-545-2600 to speak to a service representative and access treatment.

Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP)  
Methadone Maintenance Treatment (MMT)  
Outpatient Program (OP)

David T. Jones  
Commissioner  
215-685-5400