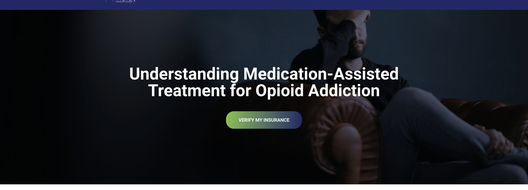

Understanding Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Addiction

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It's no secret that opioid addiction is one of the most serious and prevalent public health crises our country has ever experienced. As both the supply and demand for opiates have increased, so have the number of overdoses and deaths due to this dangerous drug.

To combat this crisis, Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) has become a major focus of prevention efforts worldwide, as it can reduce misuse, overdose fatalities, transmission through shared needles, and crime-related behaviors associated with substance use disorder – including quality of life improvements in those who are addicted.

What is Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)?

Medication-Assisted Treatment, commonly known as MAT, is a specialized form of treatment for individuals struggling with substance abuse. It is a comprehensive approach that combines behavioral therapy with prescription medication in order to address the physical and psychological effects of addiction.

MAT is used for a variety of substances, including opioids, alcohol, and nicotine. It works by blocking the euphoric effects of certain drugs and reducing cravings, allowing individuals to focus on developing coping skills and making positive lifestyle changes. MAT has been shown to significantly improve treatment outcomes, reduce the risk of relapse, and increase the chances of long-term recovery.

Benefits of MAT for opioid addiction recovery

Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) is a unique approach that has proven to be effective in treating opioid addiction. One of the major benefits of MAT is that it reduces the risk of relapse by easing the uncomfortable withdrawal symptoms that accompany recovery. MAT also uses medication combined with counseling and behavioral therapies to address the root of the addiction, improve patients' quality of life, and help them successfully achieve long-term recovery.

Different types of medications used in MAT

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) is a powerful tool in helping individuals with substance use disorder achieve lasting sobriety. There are three main types of medications used in MAT: methadone, buprenorphine, and naltrexone.

Methadone

Methadone is a long-acting full opioid agonist that is taken orally once a day.

Buprenorphine

Buprenorphine is a partial opioid agonist that also helps reduce cravings, but has a lower risk of overdose.

Naltrexone

Naltrexone is a pure opioid antagonist that blocks the effects of other opioids and reduces cravings.

Each type of medication provides a unique approach to treating opioid addiction and should be carefully prescribed to suit the individual needs of each patient. When used as directed, medication-assisted treatment can be a lifesaving intervention for those struggling with addiction.

The importance of counseling and support for MAT

It is important to remember that MAT is just one piece of the puzzle. Counseling and support services can make a significant difference in the success of an individual's recovery from addiction. Counseling can help address underlying mental health issues, such as depression or anxiety, that may have contributed to substance abuse.

Support groups can provide a sense of community and accountability, helping individuals stay on track with their treatment plans. In short, incorporating counseling and support services into MAT can provide a more comprehensive approach to addiction treatment, increasing the chances of successful and long-term recovery.

Common side effects and risks associated with MAT

Like any medication, it comes with potential side effects and risks. Some common side effects of MAT include:

- nausea
- headaches
- sleep disturbances

In rare cases, it can also lead to allergic reactions or liver damage. Additionally, there is a risk of overdose if the medication is misused or mixed with other substances. It's important to weigh the benefits and risks of MAT with the guidance of a medical professional and to strictly follow the prescribed dosage and administration instructions to ensure maximum safety and effectiveness.

How to find the right medication and treatment plan for you

Managing your health condition can sometimes mean finding the right medication and treatment plan that works for you. This can be a time-consuming process, but it is important to work closely with your healthcare provider to find what works best for your individual needs. It may involve trying out different medications, adjusting dosages, and exploring alternative treatments until you find the right fit.

It's important to be patient and communicate openly with your healthcare provider about any concerns or side effects you may experience. Together, you can find the right medication and treatment plan that can help you manage your condition and improve your quality of life.

Contact Findlay Recovery Center Today

Medication-assisted treatment provides a bridge from opioid use disorders to recovery and can often be combined with other evidence-based treatments—such as counseling—to boost an individual's recovery success.

If you or someone you know is struggling with opioid addiction, reach out to Findlay Recovery Center to learn more about how medication-assisted treatment can benefit an individual's journey toward sobriety. Our knowledgeable staff is here to provide support and guidance on this challenging journey.

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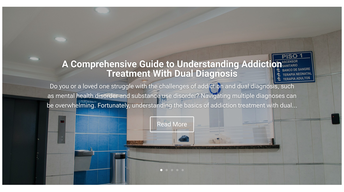

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Once you reach a Findlay Recovery Center treatment coordinator, we will do a simple pre-assessment to make sure we're a good fit for you.

Plan Travel & Admit

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Hours of Operation

About Our Company

Findlay Recovery Center is a drug & alcohol treatment center in Findlay, Ohio that offers evidence-based, detoxification and residential inpatient treatment at an affordable rate.