CMS Will Begin Covering Opioid Treatment Program Services for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder

Starting January 1, 2020, under the Calendar Year (CY) 2020 Physician Fee Schedule final rule, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will pay Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) through bundled payments for opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment services in an episode of care provided to people with Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance). OTPs must enroll in the Medicare program in order to receive reimbursement when these services are provided to Medicare patients.

HHS Releases Guide on Reducing Opioid Dosage

The HHS Guide for Clinicians on the Appropriate Dosage Reduction or Discontinuation of Long-Term Opioid Analgesics provides advice to clinicians who are contemplating or initiating a reduction in opioid dosage or discontinuation of long-term opioid therapy for chronic pain. In each case the clinician should review the risks and benefits of the current therapy with the patient, and decide if tapering is appropriate based on individual circumstances. [Read Guide]

Archived Webinars you May Have Missed

The Opioid Epidemic and Complications of Injection Drug Use* Sponsor: International Nurses Society on Addictions

Webinar description: This presentation will specifically focus on HIV and other medical conditions that result from IV drug use. Specific attention will be paid to the treatment of HIV in this population and prevention strategies including PrEP as a prevention strategy for contracting HIV.
Exploring the Correlation Between Substance Use and Cluster B Personality Disorders*

Sponsor: International Nurses Society on Addictions
Webinar description: This course explores the correlation between substance use and cluster B personality disorders. The current state of the science is explored. Information regarding the unique challenges associated with treating these co-occurring disorders is provided. Treatment considerations and recommendations are reviewed.

Analgesic Pain and Patient Expectations: Using Motivational Interviewing to Promote Best Practices*

Sponsor: American Dental Association
Webinar description: Although opioid pain medications are no longer considered first line treatment for acute dental pain in the United States, patients and dental providers may still have expectations surrounding their use. In this webinar, we will explore the state of the opioid overdose crisis in the U.S., evidence-based recommendations for prescribing opioids and how motivational interviewing can be used to educate patients, align expectations, and steer encounters towards best practices in order to provide safe and effective care.

*These sessions are not designated for continuing education credit