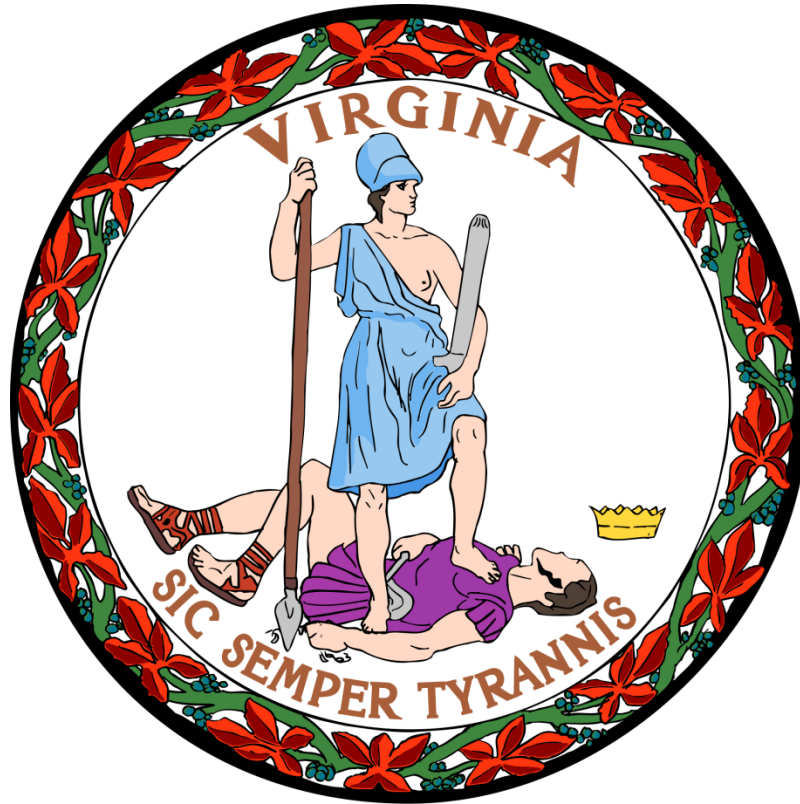




Governor's Taskforce on Prescription Drug & Heroin Abuse



Treatment Workgroup Recommendations

May 12, 2015

Treatment Workgroup Accepted Recommendations

1. To reduce stigma and increase access, provide education about addiction and Medical Assisted Treatment (MAT) to health care providers, students, CSBs, Law Enforcement, and Communities
2. Explore ways to enhance MAT through CSBs, Drug Treatment Courts, and jail-based treatment
3. Create training opportunities for health care professionals, both in training and in practice, on how to treat addiction and how to diagnose or manage chronic pain
4. Enhance and enforce a standard of care for treatment with office-based buprenorphine
5. Ensure health plans are complying with the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act by providing adequate coverage for treatment, including MAT
6. Examine and enhance Medicaid reimbursement for substance abuse treatment services
7. Expand access to naloxone by lay rescuers and law enforcement to prevent death from overdose
8. Explore and expand use of appropriate peer support services, with necessary oversight
9. Expand use of the Prescription Monitoring Program
10. Increase access to naloxone by allowing pharmacists to dispense naloxone under proper protocols



Treatment Workgroup Recommendation Update

- 1) To reduce stigma and increase access, provide education about addiction and Medical Assisted Treatment (MAT) to health care providers, students, CSBs, Law Enforcement, and Communities
 - a) **Endorse a Consensus Statement on the Use of Medications in Treatment of Substance Use Disorders**





Draft Consensus Statement

Excerpted from the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors Consensus Statement

- “Individuals seeking treatment for substance use disorders should be educated about all treatment options, including use of medications, so they may make informed decisions about their care. For some people, medication will be unnecessary. For others, it may be a helpful tool for recovery...”





Draft Consensus Statement

- ...For still others, medication (such as methadone, buprenorphine, naltrexone), will be a crucial component of treatment without which the prognosis for recovery is very poor. In all cases, the use of addiction medications should be considered and supported as a viable treatment strategy...





Draft Consensus Statement

- ...in conjunction with other evidence-based practices and as a path to recovery for individuals struggling with substance use disorders. In addition, we recommend that public and private health insurance plans cover medications for the treatment of opioid dependence.”



Treatment Workgroup Recommendation Update

- 2) Enhance and enforce a standard of care for treatment with office-based buprenorphine
 - a) **Recommend that Department of Health Professions develop requirements and recommendations for evidence-based treatment with office-based buprenorphine**



Treatment Workgroup Recommendation Updates

- 3) Ensure health plans are complying with the Mental Health Parity Act by providing adequate coverage for treatment, including MAT
 - a) Meeting scheduled with BoI regarding mental health parity 5/26
 - b) Also seeking current coverage information from the Virginia Association of Health Plans



Treatment Workgroup Recommendation Updates

- 4) Examine and enhance Medicaid reimbursement for substance abuse treatment services

* Meeting scheduled to review Medicaid addiction treatment coverage on 5/15



Treatment Workgroup Recommendation Update

5) We do not have adequate resources or capacity to provide addiction treatment to those who need it in Virginia.

a) The Task Force should recommend that the Commonwealth significantly increase funding for treatment services.



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Treatment Workgroup Recommendations

Questions & Comments?



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