

June 15, 2023

**ILLINOIS HEALTH AND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
M E M O R A N D U M**

SUBJECT: Upcoming Opioid Education for Emergency Departments

This summer, significant educational outreach is underway for Illinois hospital clinicians and administrators interested in learning more about providing Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) to patients in emergency departments (ED) with opioid use disorder (OUD). In Jan. 2023, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 removed clinicians' requirements to have a special waiver in order to prescribe buprenorphine to patients with OUD. Since then, members have expressed interest in additional knowledge regarding treatment implementation in EDs. More information on an upcoming collaborative, planned member survey engagement, and a webinar series on OUD prevention and treatment is below.

As a follow-up to a [May 19 memo](#), an initial cohort of member hospitals will begin working with the [National Bridge Network](#) in an eight week intensive program that provides individualized education and technical assistance for on-site champions and their teams looking to implement these programs in hospital EDs. In addition, IHA will be seeking member feedback on OUD prevention, treatment and funding needs in hospitals in an upcoming survey, to be released in the coming weeks.

Finally, throughout June and July, the Illinois Public Health Institute (IPHI) and the Chicago Dept. of Public Health are sponsoring a free, four-part webinar series, [Meeting the Opioid Challenge in the ED](#), designed especially for physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and nurses working in EDs who are seeing patients with overdoses and opioid use disorder:

- Overview of the Opioid Challenge (June 16, 12:00 CT)
- Overcoming Stigma and Bias in Opioid Treatment (June 23, 12:00 CT)
- Dosing, Risk, Readiness and other Technical Questions (July 14, 12:00 CT)
- Treatment and Referral Workflows, Billing and Resources (July 25, 12:00 CT)

These trainings aim to close that gap for medical professionals and others who support people with OUD in emergency departments. IHA is working with the sponsors on the final webinar and an implementation toolkit for hospitals related to Medicaid billing for this service. Of note, Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) license renewals now require eight hours of opioid-related Continuing Medical Education credit and participants will receive one credit hour for each session attended.

[Contact us](#) with questions.