



Emergency Department Care Coordination (EDCC) Program Enhancements

# Bridging Care for Substance Use Disorder

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**According to data from the Virginia Department of Health, the total number of fatal drug overdoses in 2021 increased by over 42%.<sup>1</sup>**

Virginia Health Information (VHI), with support from its technology partner, Collective Medical, a PointClickCare company, is pleased to provide the ED Bridge for Substance Use Disorder program enhancement to Virginia participants.

This new enhancement will surface awareness and enable collaboration for patients with substance use disorder across both acute and office based opioid treatment (OBOT) facilities via real-time alerts and referrals.

## Expand Efficient Treatment with a MAT Collaboration Network

Medication-assisted treatment, or MAT, is an effective evidence-based treatment for opioid use disorder. Utilizing the period of lucidity during buprenorphine treatment, providers can refer patients to MAT providers in dedicated treatment settings or federally-qualified health centers.

Working within the parameters of 42 CFR Part 2, the EDCC can proactively connect patients in the hospital with MAT facilities for appropriate treatment.

- Warm hand-off management including patient clinical summaries
- Real-time alerts on patient ED/IP utilization to facilitate timely patient follow-up care

The ED Bridge enhancement provides timely, quality reporting and improves longitudinal outcomes for:

- Referral conversion rates
- Access wait time
- Treatment retention
- ED/IP utilization
- Recidivism rate
- Readmission rate
- Opioid-related mortality

## A Note About Consent

All sensitive information from a facility using Collective's consent model is housed within a separate consent-enabled portal, making the facility's relationship to the patient invisible by default to the rest of the Collective Network. The new enhancement supports the standard Collective Medical Consent Form.

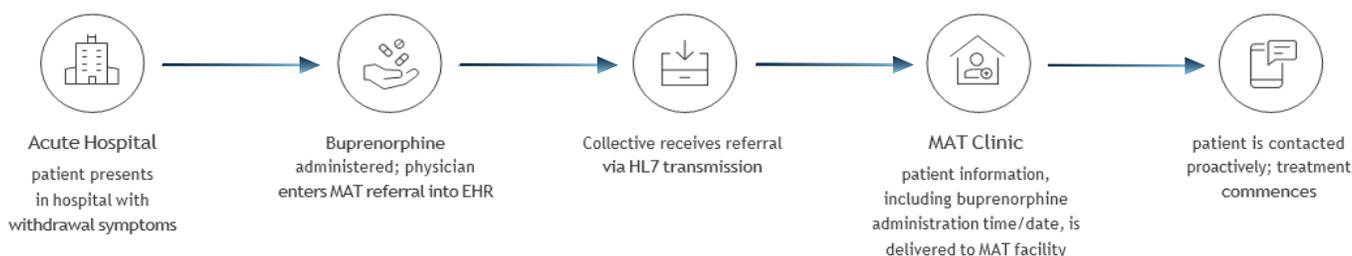
- Allows for the sharing of information across the Collective network, which covers over 30 states
- Managed by each provider organization
- Prevents information from being shared with health plans
- Allows for the sharing of full or no clinical information based on type of consent granted

## How it Works

### Standard MAT Approach



### A Coordinated Approach



## DEA's Commitment to Expanding Access to MAT

"Medication-assisted treatment helps those who are fighting to overcome substance use disorder by sustaining recovery and preventing overdoses. At DEA, [we] want medication-assisted treatment to be readily and safely available to anyone in the country who needs it."<sup>2</sup>

Beginning in March 2022, practitioners working in hospitals, clinics, and emergency rooms will be able to request an exception allowing them to dispense a three-day supply of medication-assisted treatments, including buprenorphine and methadone, to treat patients experiencing acute opioid withdrawal symptoms.

2. <https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2022/03/23/deas-commitment-expanding-access-medication-assisted-treatment>

Program enhancements are available to all EDCC program participants.

To learn more about this enhancement, [contact marcus@vhi.org](mailto:marcus@vhi.org)

