

Opioid treatment programs

Medicare covers opioid use disorder treatment services for people with Medicare when you get them from an opioid treatment program (OTP).

What does Medicare cover?

 Medication-assisted treatment medications approved for use in treatment of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), like methadone, buprenorphine, naltrexone, and naloxone

Note: Medicare drug coverage (Part D) also covers drugs like buprenorphine (to treat opioid use disorders) and methadone (when prescribed for pain). Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) covers methadone when it's used to treat an opioid use disorder as a hospital inpatient.

- Substance use counseling you get in person or virtually (using video technology like your computer, or audio-only technology like your phone)
- Individual and group therapy you get in person or virtually
- Toxicology testing
- Intake activities
- Periodic assessments you get in person or virtually
- Opioid antagonist medications (like naloxone) approved for the emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose
- Overdose education you get along with opioid antagonist medication

What do I pay?

You pay nothing for these services if you get them from an OTP that's enrolled in Medicare. The Part B deductible applies for supplies and medications you get through an OTP.

What if I'm in a Medicare Advantage Plan?

Medicare Advantage Plans must also cover OTP services. If you're in a Medicare Advantage Plan, your current OTP must be Medicare-enrolled and in the plan's network to make sure your treatment stays uninterrupted. If not, you may have to switch to a Medicare-enrolled OTP. You may also be charged a copayment. Contact your Medicare Advantage Plan for more information.

Who pays for my OTP services if I have both Medicare and Medicaid?

Medicare is now the primary payer for OTP services for people who have both Medicare and Medicaid. Medicare is working with opioid treatment providers and state Medicaid agencies so you won't have a break in your care.

Where can I get more information about opioid use disorder treatment services?

- Visit Medicare.gov/coverage/opioid-use-disorder-treatment-services
- Visit Medicare.gov/talk-to-someone and select "Find Treatment Near You" on the "Find treatment for opioid misuse" card. Then, select your state to find a program near you.

You have the right to get Medicare information in an accessible format, like large print, braille, or audio. You also have the right to file a complaint if you feel you've been discriminated against. Visit Medicare.gov/about-us/accessibility-nondiscrimination-notice, or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) for more information. TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

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