



APRNs Providing Office-Based Opioid Treatment (OBOT) Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)

Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) means alcohol or drug addiction services accompanied by medication that has been approved by the FDA for the treatment of substance use disorder, prevention of a substance use disorder relapse, or both. Rule 4723-9-13(A)(6), OAC.

Office-based opioid treatment (OBOT) means medication-assisted treatment of opioid dependence or addiction utilizing controlled substances, in a private office or public sector clinic that is not otherwise regulated, by practitioners who are authorized to prescribe outpatient supplies of medications approved by the FDA for the treatment of opioid addiction or prevention of relapse. OBOT includes treatment with all controlled substance medications approved by the FDA for such treatment, except for treatment that occurs in certain specified settings. Rule 4723-9-13(A)(7), OAC.

Only qualified practitioners, including APRNs, who have obtained a DATA waiver from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) can offer buprenorphine for the treatment of opioid use disorders. The Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA 2000) and subsequent legislation (2018 SUPPORT Act) expanded the use of MAT using buprenorphine to additional practitioners, including APRNs, in various settings, so long as the practitioner has obtained a "DATA waiver" prior to engaging in the practice.

The DATA waiver is obtained directly through SAMHSA. All APRN prescribing is governed by the APRN's scope (Sections 4723.43, and 4723.481, ORC), standards of care and Chapter 4723-9, OAC, and the terms of the standard care arrangement (SCA) the APRN entered into with their collaborating physician. In addition to the general requirements that govern APRN prescribing, when an APRN is providing MAT, additional requirements required by Rule 4723-9-13, OAC, also apply. Some of the requirements of Rule 4723-9-13, OAC, are summarized below. The entire rule is available through the links provided below.

Qualified CNSs, CNMs, or CNPs may provide MAT, including prescribing controlled substances in schedule III, IV or V, if they:

- Comply with Section 3719.064, ORC, and all federal and state laws and regulations governing the prescribing of the medication, including but not limited to incorporating into the APRN's practice knowledge of Chapter 4729, ORC, and Chapter 4731, ORC, and rules adopted under that Chapter 4731, ORC, that govern the practice of the APRN's collaborating physician.
- Complete at least eight (8) hours of continuing education in each renewal period related to substance abuse and addiction.
- Provide MAT if the treatment is within the collaborating physician's normal course of practice and expertise.

In addition to meeting the requirements for MAT, set forth above, qualified CNSs, CNMs, and CNPs may provide OBOT under the following circumstances:

- The SCA statement of services includes OBOT.

- The CNS, CNM, and CNP performs, or confirms the completion of, and documents a patient assessment including but not limited to, a comprehensive medical and psychiatric history; a brief mental status history; substance abuse history; family history and psychosocial supports; appropriate physical examination; urine drug screen or oral fluid drug testing; pregnancy test for women of childbearing age and ability; review of the patient's prescription information in OARRS; testing for various specified conditions.
- The CNS, CNM, and CNP establishes and documents a treatment plan that includes all of required components, including but not limited to, the rationale for selection of the specific drug to be used, patient education; the patient's written, informed consent; random urine-drug screens or oral fluid drug testing; a signed treatment agreement with the patient outlining the responsibilities of the patient and the APRN; a plan for psychosocial treatment that meets the requirements. Section 4723-9-13(C)(3), OAC.
- The CNS, CNM, and CNP provides OBOT only in accordance with an acceptable treatment protocol for assessment, induction, stabilization, maintenance, and tapering. Acceptable protocols are specified in Rule 4723-9-13(C)(4), OAC.
- Except if the CNS, CNM, and CNP is a qualified behavior healthcare provider, they must refer and work jointly with a qualified behavioral healthcare provider, community mental health services provider, or community addiction services provider to determine the optimal type and intensity of psychosocial treatment for the patient and document the treatment plan in the patient record.
- If the CNS, CNM, and CNP refers the patient to a qualified behavioral health service provider, community addiction services provider, or community mental health services provider, the APRN shall document the referral and the APRN's interactions with the provider in the patient record.
- The CNS, CNM, and CNP must offer the patient a prescription for a naloxone kit; ensure that the patient receives instruction on the kit's use including, but not limited to, recognizing the signs and symptoms of overdose and calling 911 in an overdose situation; offer a new prescription for naloxone upon expiration or use of the old kit; and, if the patient refuses the prescription, the patient must be provided with information on where to obtain a kit without a prescription.
- If the CNS, CNM, and CNP provides OBOT using buprenorphine products, they must meet all the additional requirements specified in Rule 4723-9-13(C)(9), OAC. If naltrexone is used to treat opioid use disorder, all the additional requirements specified in Rule 4723-9-13(C)(10), OAC, must be met.

Links to cited law and rule and additional related resources:

<http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/4723-9> (Prescribing standards, generally)

<http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/4723-9-13v1> (Medication Assisted Treatment)

<https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/rule-4723-9-14>

(Standards and procedures for withdrawal management for drug or alcohol addiction)

For information on buprenorphine waiver processing, contact the SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) at 866-BUP-CSAT (866-287-2728) or infobuprenorphine@samhsa.hhs.gov

<https://www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-treatment/become-buprenorphine-waivered-practitioner>

<https://nursing.ohio.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/APRN-PRESCRIBING-PROCESS.pdf>

Practice resources, including prescribing resources, are on the on the Practice Resources page on Board website at www.nursing.ohio.gov. Please email practice questions to practiceaprn@nursing.ohio.gov.