



Community Behavioral Health: Provider Notification Fentanyl and Opioid Use Disorder July 24, 2018

In response to reports of a significant increase in the presence of fentanyl users presenting for opioid use disorder treatment, CBH is issuing clarification regarding concerns related to urine drug screen (UDS) requirements for fentanyl users seeking (1) opioid substance use treatment authorization and (2) initiation of medication assisted treatment (MAT). The concerns relate to protocols that have historically relied on current urine drug screens, which do not detect fentanyl.

Per **CBH Provider Notification of May 1, 2018, UDS and Vitals No Longer Required to Preauthorize Substance Use Treatment**, CBH does not require UDS confirmation of substance abuse to authorize substance use treatment services. CBH encourages providers to add fentanyl testing to their laboratory testing panels for clinical use; however, a positive fentanyl screen is not required for treatment authorization.

For narcotic treatment programs that will be initiating MAT, CBH reminds providers of **Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) Policy Bulletin No 18-04** which updates **28 Pa. Code § 715.14(a)** to clarify that a UDS must be completed prior to initiation of treatment, however treatment does not need to wait for a result. There are no requirements that a specific result be obtained for MAT to begin or continue. DDAP recommends that clinicians consider factors, including fentanyl, into decision making about initiating treatment prior to receiving urinalysis results.