

# Opportunities to address overdose in treatment

Guidance for substance use disorder treatment providers



## Waitlists

Anyone placed on a waiting list should get information on opioid safety and overdose response, regardless of stated drug of choice.



## Screening/Assessment

Language about overdose can be added to intake forms, including screening for trauma.



## Counseling

Individual and group counseling can discuss past overdose experiences as well as prevention and intervention skills. Family support groups can also cover overdose.



## Induction/Orientation

Induction of medication-assisted treatment is a high-risk time for overdose; prevention and education should be addressed. All treatment orientations can acknowledge the risk of relapse and overdose.



## Positive Drug Screens

Discussing concerns about overdose in the event of a positive drug screen can reduce tension by emphasizing the importance of the client's safety.



## Discharge

Discharge may be our last chance to make sure that people have the best skills, information, tools, and materials to keep themselves safe.



Any time a client overdoses and on International Overdose Awareness Day, every year on August 31