



New Medicare Benefit: Coverage for NTP Services

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WELCOME!

- This webinar is being recorded and will be hosted on the NTP REACH website at <http://www.uclaisap.org/ntpreach/> for later viewing and sharing with your team.
- We provide CE's for certain providers. In order to obtain CE credit, please remember to write down the start and end codes. I will provide the *start code* shortly, and the *end code* at the end of the webinar.
- At the close of the webinar we will provide a URL for the CE evaluation survey.



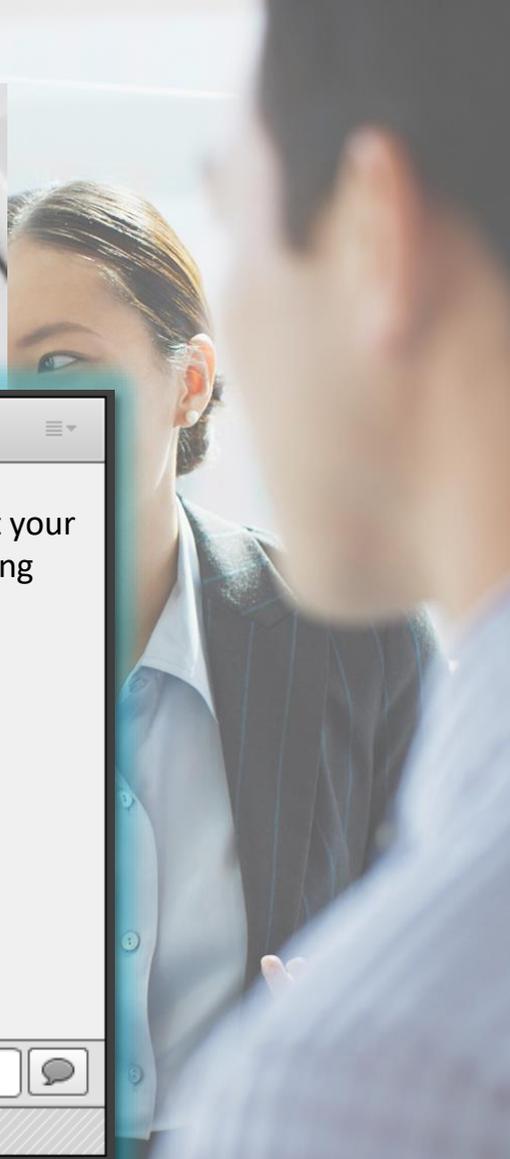
**This event is
being recorded.
Audio is now broadcasting.**



Your microphone will be muted!

If you have any technical difficulties, put your question in the Chat box “to Elizabeth” for help.

Please also put content-related questions in the Chat box “to EVERYONE” to be answered at the end of the webinar.



Public Group Chat

You will have a chance to post your questions in the chat box during this webinar.

Everyone

Background

- Basic structure of the Medicare program
- SUD services it has and has not covered
- New OTP benefit: how & why

Opioids & Medicare Populations

- Older adults
- SSDI
- SSI/dual eligibles

New OTP Benefit

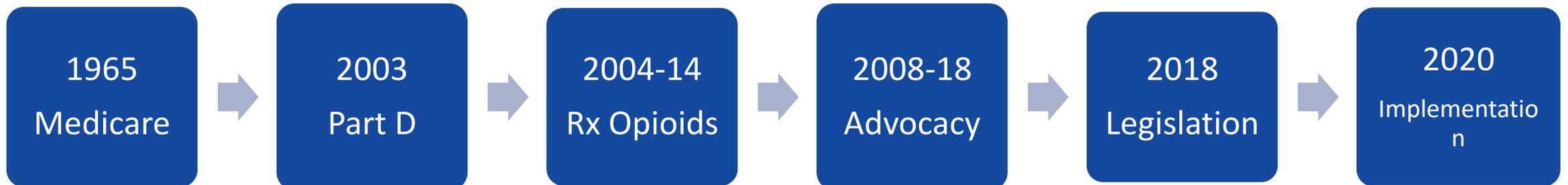
- Provider enrollment
- CMS guidance
- State & federal contacts

Topics and information this presentation covers



Background

Medicare, Opioids & OUD Treatment



Audience Poll: How prepared are you?



We're enrolled and ready to submit claims



We already started the enrollment process



We are just getting started...



HELP!

Medicare: Who, What & How

Medicare Part A

Medicare Part B

Medicare Part C

Medicare Part D

- Covers 80% of hospital stays (no cost)
 - US citizens who had payroll deductions are enrolled at 65
 - Enrolled after 24 months on SSDI or SSI disability
- Doctor visits, outpatient carets
 - Anyone eligible for Medicare can enroll in Part B
 - But they must pay their monthly premiums
- Or Medicare Advantage combines A,B, & D
 - Managed care plans offered by commercial insurers
 - Some also offer Medicare supplemental insurance
- Prescription drug costs
 - All Medicare-eligible individuals can enroll
 - They must pay the premiums (usually to an MCO)

Prior to 2020

Medicare fee-for-service coverage for SUD Tx

- Medicare had no specific SUD Tx benefit
- Had not recognized treatment facilities as a provider type
- Had not offered bundled payment for SUD services

What has Medicare covered?

- Part A covers inpatient SUD treatment at enrolled hospitals
- And day-hospitalization programs at enrolled hospitals
- Part B covers drugs administered by a doctor
- Part D and Medicare Advantage covers prescribed buprenorphine
- Part B covers counseling (enrolled LCSW, psychologist or psychiatrist)



Opioid Crisis

Guess who picked up the check?

Medicare expenditures for Rx opioids 1999-2012

- In 1999 Medicare paid 1% of all Rx opioid costs
- By 2012 Medicare was paying 26% of all Rx opioid costs
- Co-pays dropped 53%, shifting more costs on to insurers



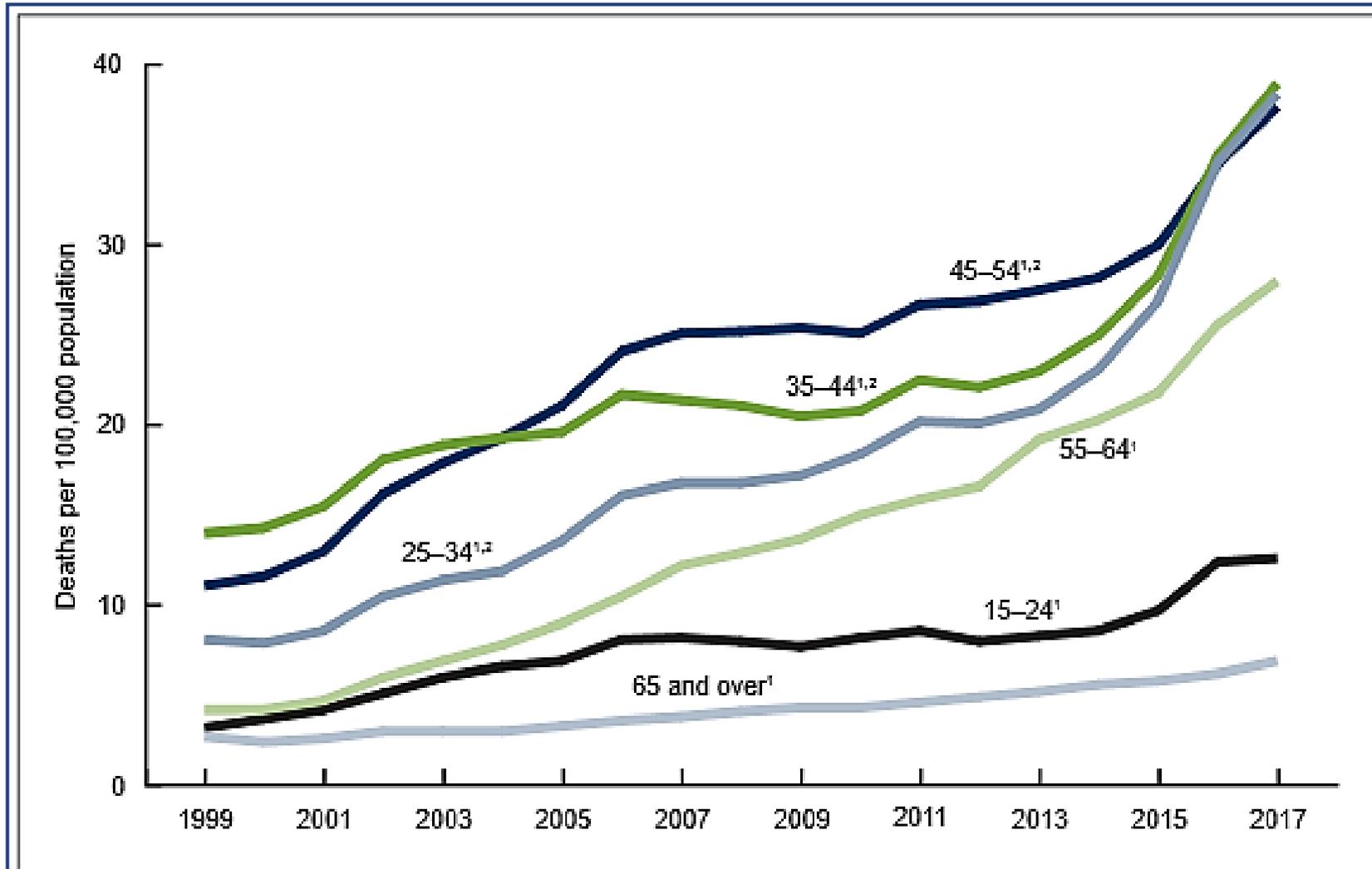
Medicare spent more than Medicaid or private insurers

- Medicaid \$139 per person (on average)
- Private insurance \$209 per person
- Medicare \$328 per person
- Rx opioids went to a third of 2016 Part D beneficiaries

Opioids & Medicare-eligible populations

- Adults over 65
- Disabled (SSDI)
- Disabled (SSI)
- Dual eligibles

Opioids & older adults



- Opioid OD risk increases with age
- Peaks ages 45-54
- 2017: significant increase among 65+
- Health factors, drug interactions
- Okay Boomers

Medicare Recipients on Disability (SSDI & SSI)

Social Security Disability Insurance

- *Highest rate of Rx opioid use of any Medicare beneficiaries*
- Earned enough wages through employment to qualify
- Became unable to work due to a disability
- No means test or asset limits
- Can earn up to \$1,260 per month

Supplemental Security Income

- Strict asset/income limits to qualify for \$783 monthly
- Usually also Medi-Cal eligible (dual eligibles)
- If earned income exceeds limits it may result in deductions
- More likely to be prescribed opioids, at higher overdose risk, less known

California by the Numbers



- 16% of Medi-Cal beneficiaries are full dual eligibles
- At least 4% of CA's 1.6 million dual eligibles have SUDs
- Up to 1 in 6 Medi-Cal clients w/ OUD may also have Medicare
- As of 1/1/2020, CA had one NTP that completed the Medicare enrollment process (Marin Tx Ctr, San Rafael)

NTPs should complete their applications as soon as possible.

Always wanted to influence policy?....

- Please think about what Questions you have so far and ask them at the close of our webinar!
- Your questions will help inform CA policy on these matters going forward



The New NTP Benefit

- Provider enrollment process
- CMS guidance
- State & federal contacts

OTP (“NTP”) Medicare Benefit is Legally Mandated by Support Act & H.R. 5776

PUBLIC LAW 115–271—OCT. 24, 2018



**Substance Use Disorder Prevention
that Promotes Treatment for Patients and
Communities (SUPPORT) Act**

TITLE II—MEDICARE PROVISIONS TO ADDRESS THE
OPIOID CRISIS



WAYS AND MEANS

**Medicare and Opioid Safe Treatment
(MOST) Act of 2018
H.R. 5776**

Covers Bundled Services (billed weekly)

(amounts based on staff providing them, scope & frequency)

- FDA-approved opioid agonist & antagonist MAT drugs
- Dispensing/administering medications
- Counseling: individual & group (okay via video conferencing)
- Toxicology testing, intake, & periodic assessments

*OBOT currently covered by Part B & Medicare Advantage plans

Provider enrollment process, links & information

- [CMS Medicare OTP homepage](#)
- [CMS January letter to OTPs & state MAT authorities](#)
- [Enrollment Fact Sheet](#)
- [PECOS \(online enrollment\)](#)
(Provider Enrollment, Chain & Ownership System)

The screenshot displays the CMS.gov website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About CMS, Newsroom, Archive, Share, Help, and Print. Below this is the CMS.gov logo and the text "Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services". A search bar is located on the right side of the header. A horizontal menu contains several categories: Medicare, Medicaid/CHIP, Medicare-Medicaid Coordination, Private Insurance, Innovation Center, Regulations & Guidance, Research, Statistics, Data & Systems, and Outreach & Education. The main content area is titled "Opioid Treatment Programs (OTP)" and includes a sub-menu with options for Overview, Enrollment, Billing/Payment, Medicaid, Medicare Advantage Plans, and Outreach & Education. The page features a section titled "Reducing Opioid Misuse" with a link to "Learn more" about CMS's efforts. Another section, "Materials from Recent MAC Calls", provides information about recent calls with Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) and offers a link to "materials (PDF)". The main text under "Opioid Treatment Programs (OTP)" states that starting January 1, 2020, CMS will pay for Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) through bundled payments for opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment services. It lists the services covered under the new OTP benefit, including FDA-approved MAT medications, MAT administration, counseling, therapy, testing, and assessments. The page concludes with an encouragement for OTPs to begin the enrollment process and a link to a letter to OTP program sponsors and state Opioid Treatment Authorities (SOTAs).

Your Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC)

- Federal contractors in each region process claims & manage provider enrollment
- CA's Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC)*: [Noridian Healthcare Solutions](https://www.noridian.com)
- Noridian will assist providers with enrollment and will process claims
- Noridian's website offers 3 brief online enrollment trainings for providers

Opioid Treatment Program (OTP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview & Special Enrollment 📄 Dec 2019 - 7 minutes • Noridian Medicare Portal 📄 Dec 2019 - 6 minutes • Billing, Payment, Documentation and Resources 📄 Dec 2019 - 14 minutes
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*California is Jurisdiction E for Part A & B; Jurisdiction D for Part DME – Noridian is MAC for both

A Walk Through the Process

Feel free to ask questions as we go in chat or raise your hand to ask by phone

- Download or print the Enrollment Fact Sheet
- Use the Enrollment Process Checklist on page 20
- Gather documentation
- Get an NPI (if you don't already have one)
- Identify your MAC
- Submit paper application (form CMS-855B) or
- Apply electronically using the PECOS system
- Pay the enrollment fee: \$595



*NOTE: If you use a billing agent, you must include their information in section 8 of the enrollment application

Couple things....

- Once an application has been submitted, a site visit is scheduled prior to enrolment.
- I wanted to verify this with the MAC but spoke with someone who didn't think it was so, but she confirmed it after I had her check.
- The most pressing issue is dual eligibles OTPs already serve and bill the services to Medi-Cal.
- Since Medicaid is the payer of last resort, those claims must be submitted to Medicare.
- There's conflicting information on how long OTPs can bill Medicaid while awaiting Medicare enrollment and how far back retroactive reimburse goes.
- It's at least 1 month and at most 3 months (my money is on the latter) but will try to check the conflicting information.



The Good News

Medicare is a federal program, so rules are consistent across counties and states.

Medicare, SSI and SSDI have favorable policies in place that apply to all custody populations re-entering communities.

Benefits are suspended after 30 days in custody, but people in jails for short periods won't lose coverage.

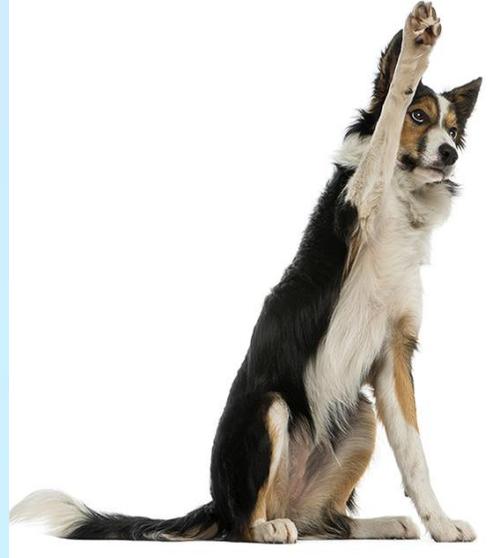
After that, SSDI is suspended indefinitely and may be reactivated upon release.

SSI is terminated for sentenced inmates only, after they serve more than 12 consecutive months. In such cases, they must reapply.

Anyone else see an upside?



Questions, ideas, thoughts or comments?



Please visit often:

- <http://www.uclaisap.org/ntpreach/>
- And <http://www.uclaisap.org/>

*Sincerest thanks for your participation & for the demanding work
you do so well!*