



Wisconsin Department of Corrections

Governor Scott Walker | Secretary Jon E. Litscher

Opioid Addiction Treatment Pilot Program

Overview

- Governor Walker's 2015-17 Executive Budget included \$1.6 million in funding over the biennium for DOC to develop an opioid addiction treatment pilot program.
- DOC subsequently developed a pilot program to provide medication-assisted treatment for inmates with a history of opioid dependency releasing to the community.
- The Governor's 2017 – 2019 Executive Budget includes \$1.6 million in funding to continue the pilot program over the coming biennium.
- Other states, including Colorado, Florida, and Missouri, are providing medication-assisted treatment using Vivitrol to treat inmates with opioid dependency.
- Vivitrol (naltrexone) is an opioid antagonist, which blocks opioids from attaching to opioid receptors. This minimizes cravings of individuals by blocking the effects of opioids.
- As of 9/8/2017, 24 offenders have completed the program. 7 offenders were recognized in June 2017 and 17 offenders are being recognized in September 2017.

Program Design

- DOC is identifying inmates with a history of opioid dependency who are releasing into Brown, Calumet, Door, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Outagamie, Waupaca, and Winnebago counties.
- DOC identified these counties for the pilot due to the significant increase in heroin cases in the area from 2012 to 2014.
- Additionally, offenders on community supervision in the above counties are eligible to participate.
- The pilot program currently has an average daily population of approximately 100 program participants.
- DOC is partnering with ThedaCare, Acadia Healthcare, Options Treatment Programs, and Holy Family Memorial Medical Center to provide various services as part of the program.

Treatment Design

- AODA Programming: The level of programming is based upon initial and ongoing assessments of the offender by treatment providers. Resulting treatment may include individual sessions, group sessions, intensive outpatient programming, or relapse prevention sessions. Frequency of treatment sessions depend upon the needs of each individual offender.
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy: Program participants participate in Thinking for Change, a cognitive-behavioral curriculum developed by the National Institute of Corrections that concentrates on changing the criminogenic thinking of offenders.
- Mental Health Counseling: For offenders with dual diagnoses (mental health diagnosis and substance use diagnosis) who are served by Options Treatment Program, offenders have access to crisis management and relapse prevention services.
- Vivitrol Injection: Program participants receive monthly injections of Vivitrol, a non-addictive and non-intoxicating medication that blocks the effects of opioids. The first injection is provided immediately prior to the inmate's release to the community.