

## NYRx Education & Outreach Substance Use Disorder Newsletter March 2026



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### Welcome!

In this issue, you'll find trending topics, information about the NYRx Education & Outreach team, quick access to commonly used publications, calendar events, links to resources, and how to contact us.

### Highlights

#### NYRx Medication Assistance Treatment (MAT) Formulary

Prior authorization is not required for medications used for the treatment of substance use disorder when prescribed according to generally accepted national professional guidelines for the treatment of New York Medicaid members. For a complete list of available opioid antagonists and opioid dependence agents, refer to the [NYRx Preferred Drug List](#).

#### Providing Insight and Effective Support to Young Adults

As mentioned in [Get the Facts on Substance Use Disorder Treatment | Office of Addiction Services and Supports](#), transition-age adults (ages 18–25) represent a unique population within substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, facing significant behavioral health challenges as they navigate new responsibilities, relationships, and educational or vocational transitions. Nationally, this age group experiences higher rates of substance use disorder than older adults, yet they are less likely to engage in treatment. Providing compassionate, developmentally appropriate prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery support is critical to improving engagement and outcomes for this population.

#### OASAS Substance Use Disorder Treatment System Dashboard

The New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) has created an interactive [Substance Use Disorder Treatment System Dashboard](#), which highlights key characteristics of individuals receiving SUD treatment services overseen by OASAS. Additional definitions and detailed methodology are available in [Addiction Data Bulletin No. 2023-01](#).

#### Words Matter

Language commonly used to describe SUD and opioid use disorder (OUD) can perpetuate stigma and discrimination. Evidence shows that stigmatizing language increases negative perceptions and attributions towards patients.

People living with SUD and OUD may use stigmatizing language within their communities. However, providers, stakeholders, and community partners can lead efforts to help destigmatize SUD and OUD through their language choices. The following tips highlight the use of person-first language and identify terms to reduce stigma and negative bias.

Instead of...	Say...
Addiction	Substance Use Disorder, Opioid Use Disorder
Drug Addict, Abuser	A person who uses drugs
"Clean" or "Dirty" Toxicology	Test was "negative" or "positive"
Got Clean	A person who formerly used drugs

For more information, see [Medication for Opioid Use Disorder \(MOUD\): Correctional Health Implementation Toolkit](#).

## About Us

The NYRx Education & Outreach team serves as a liaison between all stakeholders and NYRx to support care coordination. Clinical liaisons are trained to support and help solve complex pharmacy cases for:

- Managed Care Plans
- Case workers and NYS agencies
- Prescribers and pharmacies with questions regarding NYRx drug coverage, prior approval requirements, and NYRx enrolled pharmacies
- Complex care coordination for populations such as HIV/AIDS, Hemophilia, Foster Care Children, Serious Mental Illness, Substance Use Disorder, and Hepatitis C

## Quicklinks

- [NYRx Preferred Drug List](#)
- [NYRx Preferred Drug Quick List](#)
- [NYRx eMedNY Formulary File](#)
- [NYRx Brand Less Than Generic Program Updates](#)

## Calendar

### Office Hour Q&A Pop-In

[Monday & Wednesday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM ET](#)

### Weekly Webinar

To register for a webinar, please visit the [NYRx E&O website](#):

- Prescriber Webinar Monday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM ET
- Pharmacy Webinar Wednesday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM ET
- NYRx, the Medicaid Pharmacy Program Friday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM ET

## Resources

- [NYRx E&O Website](#)
- [NYRx E&O YouTube Channel](#)
- [New York Public Health Now Podcast](#)

## Contact Us

- [NYRx E&O Mailbox](#)
- NYRx E&O Call Center at 1-833-967-7310, M – F, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ET, Excludes Holidays
- The NYRx E&O team is available to meet with you. To request a meeting, click [here](#).
- Sign up for [NYRx Education & Outreach Notification Service](#) to keep up to date on the latest news. To subscribe, click [here](#).