# A Quick Introduction to Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)

Also called Medication-assisted Treatment (MAT)  
Includes FDA-approved medications  
Promotes a whole-person treatment approach for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)  
Can be delivered in Office-based Opioid Treatment (OBOT) or Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) setting  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) certifies buprenorphine prescribers in OBOT settings and certifies OTPs

## Methadone
- **Schedule II**  
- Full agonist  
- Generates full effect  
- Only dispensed at OTPs, not available at OBOTs

## Buprenorphine
- **Schedule III**  
- Partial agonist  
- Generates partial effect  
- Prescribed and/or dispensed by waivered practitioners at OBOT, dispensed at OTPs

## Naltrexone
- Antagonist  
- Blocks effect of opioids  
- Prescribed in any general medical setting, including OBOTs, dispensed at OTPs

### Buprenorphine Certification
Among MOUD, buprenorphine is unique because healthcare providers must receive a certification from SAMHSA to prescribe it. For physicians, this includes an 8-hour training. For Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants, this includes 24 hours of additional training. After these trainings, providers can obtain a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)-approved X waiver, allowing them to prescribe partial agonist for the treatment of OUD.

### MOUD and COVID-19
In response to COVID-19, the DEA and SAMHSA adopted policies to allow buprenorphine prescribing via phone and allow OTPs to increase take-home dosing up to 28 days for stable patients and 14 days for less stable patients. MOUD data from the COVID-19 time period should be examined within this context. Additional resources can be found here.

Learn more about Opioid Overdose and Use.
Of people with an OUD diagnosis, 34% also had a stimulant use disorder diagnosis.

Coastal, rural, and frontier communities in Oregon are severely lacking in access to MOUDs and other OUD treatment.

As of October 2020, there were 9,263 active Methadone patients at Oregon OTPs.

As of September 2019, 1,360 practitioners in Oregon were certified to prescribe buprenorphine.

Only 58% of waivered providers prescribed buprenorphine from October 2019 – March 2020.

Practitioners can be certified to prescribe buprenorphine for OUD to 30, 100, or 275 patients.

Practitioners certified to prescribe to more patients were more likely to use their waiver.

Prescribed for opioid use disorder and alcohol use disorder.

Among the 35,770 people diagnosed with OUD from July – December 2019, 754 oral naltrexone prescriptions were filled.

Among patients who were diagnosed with OUD, 7,997 filled prescriptions for buprenorphine from July – December 2019.

Most waivered prescribers’ practice in urban areas despite high rates of OUD in rural and frontier counties as well.

Questions? Contact Chris at OHA at chris.sorvari@dhsoha.state.or.us.

Data sources: Comagine Health All Payer All Claims Database; Oregon Health Authority