Methadone Awareness

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State Opioid Treatment Authority
Overview

- 10 clinics currently in Tennessee
- Currently serving about 7000 patients
- All for profit operations
- Licensed through the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities
Central Registry

- Lies in the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities
- Responsible for tracking dual enrollees, admits and discharges, and exception requests
- Monitor program requirements
Program Requirements

- Must meet specific counseling requirements
- UDS
- Treatment plans
- Physicals
- Labs
- Personnel
West Tennessee

- **Savannah** - Solutions of Savannah
- **Dyersburg** - Mid-South Treatment Center
- **Jackson** - Jackson Professional Associates
- **Memphis** (3)
  - Memphis Center for Research and Addiction Treatment
  - American Drug Care
  - Raleigh Professional Associates
Middle Tennessee

- Nashville - Middle Tennessee Treatment Center
East Tennessee

- **Chattanooga** - Volunteer Treatment Center
- **Knoxville (2)**
  - DRD Bernard
  - DRD Central
How it works...

- Patient enrolls in the clinic
- Patient doses at the clinic based on time in treatment and compliance with the program
- Patient gets medication plus counseling required by State rules
- All out of pocket expense ($70-$90 per week)
Medication

- Methadone
  - syrup
  - wafer
- Suboxone
Medication
Take home allowances

- Number of take homes based on time in treatment
- May receive up to 28 take homes at one time
- Must be secured in a locked box
Border States

Tennessee - The Volunteer State
Closest clinic in Missouri is Springfield.

(5 hours from Dyersburg)
Arkansas

Little Rock

2 hours from Memphis
Mississippi

Jackson

3 hours from Memphis
Alabama

Muscle Shoals 1 hour to Savannah
Huntsville 2 hours to Chattanooga
Georgia

Rossville
11 minutes from Chattanooga
North Carolina

Ashville
2 hours to Knoxville
Virginia

Galax
3 ½ hours to Knoxville
Kentucky

Bowling Green
1 hour to Nashville
Number of Accidental Drug Poisonings with Methadone Mentioned on Death Certificate 1999-2007

8 in 1999

Source: Division of Health Statistics, TN Dept. of Health
Number of Accidental Drug Poisonings with Methadone Mentioned on Death Certificate 1999-2007

138 in 2007 (Provisional)

Source: Division of Health Statistics, TN Dept. of Health
Number of Hospital Discharges With an E-Code Indicating Poisoning With Methadone Mentioned Tennessee Hospitals Only, 1999-2006

Source: Division of Health Statistics, TN Dept. of Health
Diversion Control

- Random call backs every 90 days for patients who have >5 take homes
- Urine drug screens
- Dual enrollees
- Prescription Monitoring Program
  - clinics do **NOT** have to report to database
Call Back Procedures

- Random call backs every 90 days
- Must have greater than 5 or more take homes
- All doses must be present without evidence of tampering
Urine Drug Screens

- Required at least monthly
  - Amphetamines
  - THC
  - Methadone
  - Metabolite
  - Barbiturates
  - Oxycodone
  - Opiates
  - Benzodiazepines
  - Alcohol
  - Cocaine
  - PCP
  - Soma
Dual Enrollees

- Monitor admissions and discharges in the Central Registry
- Pain clinics
- Prescription Monitoring Program
Knoxville case: Patient had been enrolled in clinic on 160mg since 2004 and was getting 28 take homes a month. At last call back, the clinic accessed the PMP. The patient was also getting 160mg from a pain clinic in Arizona. He had been enrolled in the pain clinic since 2003. Fortunately for us, he filled his most recent prescription in Tennessee.
Diversion

- Knoxville case:
  - the patient never failed a call back
  - all urine drug screens licit
  - completely compliant with program
Key points

- 40mg wafer can only be dispensed from a licensed methadone clinic
- Take home doses should be kept in a locked box
Food for thought…

- Now that the 40mg wafer is no longer available to retail pharmacies, the number of methadone tablets per prescription has quadrupled…
Food for thought…

Located 0.62 miles from a methadone clinic.