



Division of Medical Services  
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To: All XDEA Waivered Prescribers

FROM: Division of Medical Services

RE: Medication Assisted Treatment (Act 964)

DATE: December 31, 2019

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Effective January 1, 2020, Arkansas Medicaid is putting in place measures to comply with Act 964 of 2019, regarding Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). Pursuant to this Act, Medicaid is removing the prior authorization requirement on the following drugs used to treat opioid use disorder:

- Suboxone® Film (buprenorphine/naloxone sublingual film)
- Buprenorphine sublingual tablets

Pursuant to Act 964, in order to receive MAT, a client must have a valid prescription and the treatment must follow the guidelines issued by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that are current as of the date of treatment. Medical necessity reviews will be conducted in accordance with the SAMSHA guidelines. To find more information on these guidelines, please visit SAMSHA's website at <https://www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-treatment/statutes-regulations-guidelines>.

In an effort to increase access to MAT and compliance with the SAMSHA guidelines, Medicaid will be conducting webinars and working with third party oversight agencies to increase compliance and educate providers on these guidelines.