



Treatment Provisions in the Opioid Package

October 12, 2018

Highlighted below are treatment provisions included in the opioid package expected to be signed into law by the President. Click [here](#) for the final bill and [here](#) for the Committee summary.

- Inpatient treatment beds – states will be able to request Medicaid reimbursement for 30-day inpatient addiction treatment and apply for Medicaid assistance to help cover inpatient and outpatient services for babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome. (Secs. 1005, 1007)
- MAT – clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse midwives and certified registered nurse anesthetists are authorized to prescribe buprenorphine for five years; physician assistants and nurse practitioners receive permanent prescribing authority. (Sec. 3201)
- Medicare reimbursement for MAT – Medicare will pay for outpatient opioid treatment through bundled payments for medications and counseling. (Sec. 2005)
- Addiction specialists – six year loan repayment program for treatment professionals in designated “mental health professional shortage areas” and in counties with significant drug abuse. (Sec. 7071)
- Telehealth – lifts Medicare restrictions barring payment for treatment outside of designated rural areas and opens up ability for providers to prescribe MAT via telehealth. (Secs. 1009, 2001)

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