





Substance Use Disorder (SUD)

# 1115 Demonstration Waiver

# **Agenda and Goals**



Background/Context: What is an 1115 SUD Waiver and why will this help Connecticut?



Questions and Comments

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# Background/Context What is an 1115 SUD Waiver?



## **Background/Context** What is an 1115 Substance Use Disorder Waiver?

This request allows Connecticut to receive federal money for large substance use disorder (SUD) residential and hospital treatment facilities that historically the State funded

The waiver allows Medicaid funding in ways **not otherwise allowed** under federal rules This waiver requires Connecticut to improve **access to and delivery of all substance use disorder treatment** in order to receive this new funding

#### **Background/Context** Goals of the Waiver

- Goals include:
  - Increase rates of identification, initiation and engagement in treatment.
  - Increase adherence to and engagement in treatment.
  - Reduce overdose deaths, particularly those due to opioids.
  - Reduce utilization of emergency departments and inpatient hospital settings for treatment in which the utilization is preventable or medically inappropriate through improved access to other continuum of care services.
  - Reduce readmissions to the same or higher level of care in which the readmission is preventable or medically inappropriate.
  - Improve access to care for physical health conditions among beneficiaries.

# Background/Context Waiver Timeline



Spring 2021

Receive approval from CMS

#### **Background/Context** Effect of the Waiver



New federal funds for Connecticut SUD treatment



New public metrics measuring the success of Connecticut SUD treatment



New provider standards and patient placement criteria consistent with the latest national evidence-based guidelines



Expanded Medicaid benefits covering the full continuum of outpatient, residential and inpatient SUD treatment



No change to Medicaid eligibility or eligibility for services

# Waiver Requirements What is required in an 1115 SUD Waiver?



# **1115 SUD Waiver Requirements Submission Requirements**



- State strategies for addressing the goals and milestones.
- A plan to address opioid abuse, including improving access to treatment and recovery support services and coordination with other state SUD activities.
- A description of the delivery system, eligibility requirements, and cost sharing (these do not vary from the existing Medicaid program).
- A description of the new benefits that will be offered
- A list of the waivers and authorities requested from CMS.
- An estimate of annual aggregate expenditures and enrollment data.
- Documentation of the State's compliance with the public notice, issues raised and how the state considered those comments in the final demonstration application.
- The research hypotheses related to the demonstration's proposed changes.
- Implementation plan.

## **1115 SUD Waiver Requirements Milestones**



#### CMS SUD 1115 MILESTONES

- 1. Access to critical levels of care for OUD and other SUDs including:
  - outpatient
  - intensive outpatient services
  - medication-assisted treatment (MAT) [medications, as well as counseling and other services with sufficient provider capacity to meet needs of Medicaid beneficiaries in the state]
  - intensive levels of care in residential and inpatient settings and
  - medically supervised withdrawal management
- 2. Use of evidence-based, SUD-specific patient placement criteria
  - Implementation of requirement that **providers assess treatment needs** based on SUD-specific, multidimensional assessment tools such as the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria or other patient placement assessment tools which reflect evidence-based clinical treatment guidelines.
  - Implementation of a **utilization management approach** such that:
    - a) beneficiaries have access to SUD services at the appropriate level of care
    - **b) interventions** are appropriate for the diagnosis and level of care and
    - c) there is an **independent process for reviewing placement in residential treatment settings**

# **1115 SUD Waiver Requirements Milestones**

#### CMS SUD 1115 MILESTONES

- 3. Use of nationally recognized SUD-specific program standards to set provider qualifications for residential treatment facilities
  - Implementation of **residential treatment provider qualifications** in licensure requirements, policy manuals, or other guidance. Qualification should meet program standards in the ASAM criteria, or other nationally recognized, evidence-based SUD-specific program standards regarding, in particular, the types of services, hours of clinical care and credentials of staff for residential treatment settings
  - Implementation of state process for reviewing residential treatment providers to ensure compliance with these standards
  - Requirement that residential treatment facilities offer MAT on site or facilitate access off site.
- 4. Sufficient **provider capacity at critical levels of care**, including for medication-assisted treatment for OUD
  - Completion of **assessment of the availability of providers enrolled in Medicaid and accepting new patients** in the critical levels of care throughout the State (or at least in participating regions of the state), including those that offer MAT

# **1115 SUD Waiver Requirements Milestones**

#### CMS SUD 1115 MILESTONES

- 5. Implementation of comprehensive treatment and prevention strategies to address opioid abuse and OUD
  - Implementation of **opioid prescribing guidelines**, along with other interventions, to prevent opioid abuse
  - Expanded coverage of, and access to, naloxone for overdose reversal
  - Implementation of strategies to increase utilization and improve functionality of **prescription drug monitoring programs**
- 6. Improved care coordination and transitions between levels of care
  - Implementation of policies to ensure residential and inpatient facilities link beneficiaries, especially those with OUD, with community-based services and supports following stays in these facilities

# **1115 SUD Waiver Requirements Implementation Plan**



- The high-level implementation plan addresses how the State will meet the goals and milestones, and includes the following for each milestone:
  - A summary of how the State already meets each milestone and/or any actions needed to meet each milestone, including the persons responsible for completing actions.
  - The timelines and activities the State will undertake to achieve the milestones.
  - An overview of any future plans to improve beneficiary access to SUD services and promote quality and safety standards.

# **Questions?** Comments?



## Acronyms

ASAM American Society of Addiction Medicine **Behavioral Health** ΒH Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services CMS CPMRS Connecticut Prescription Monitoring & Reporting System Controlled Substance Schedule II CSII DCF **Department of Children and Families** DCP Department of Consumer Protection DMHAS Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services DSS **Department of Social Services** DY **Demonstration Year** EMPI Enterprise Master Person Index ERR Electronic Health Record FFP **Federal Financial Participation** HIE Health Information Exchange HIT Health Information Technology Identification ID Institutes for Mental Disease IMD IP Inpatient ISA Interoperability Standards Advisory

| LOC   | Level of Care   |
|-------|---|
| MAT   | Medication Assisted Treatment                           |
| MEG   | Medicaid Eligibility Groups                             |
| МН    | Mental Health   |
| OHS   | Office of Healthcare Strategy                           |
| OPM   | Office of Policy and Management                         |
| OUD   | Opioid Use Disorder                                     |
| PDMP  | Prescription Drug Monitoring Program                    |
| PRTF  | Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility              |
| SBIRT | Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment |
| SED   | Seriously Emotionally Disturbed                         |
| SMHP  | State Medicaid Health IT Plan                           |
| SMI   | Seriously Mentally III                                  |
| SPA   | State Plan Amendment                                    |
| SSI   | Supplemental Security Income                            |
| SUD   | Substance Use Disorder                                  |
| TANF  | Temporarily Assistance to Needy Families                |
| WM    | Withdrawal Management                                   |
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