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INCREASING ACCESS TO MOUD IN A RURAL IHS FACILITY

Quentin N. Burdick Memorial Health Care Facility
Belcourt, ND

Background

- QNBMHCF consists of a 27-bed inpatient ward, emergency department, outpatient clinic, and pharmacy serving ~20,000 enrolled members of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
- June 2023: one Nurse Practitioner providing MAT services to patients; Increase in patients presenting to the ED and a reluctance by ED staff to initiate MOUD
- July 2023: Initiation of pharmacy-based MOUD clinic to help treat and triage patients with opioid use disorders

Challenges

- Resistance from facility staff on use of Suboxone and treatment of substance use disorders
 - *Misinformation*
 - *Stigma*
- Large population of individuals with substance use disorders and few resources to see patients
 - *Contract Providers in the ED*
- Challenges for Pharmacists: Restrictions on state pharmacist licenses on which pharmacists can obtain DEA licenses

Successes

- Training

- *Promoting education with information on pathophysiology of substance use disorder, mechanism of action of suboxone, and clinical pearls on working with individuals with substance use disorder*

- Integration of Practice

- *Utilizing pharmacists, ED providers, primary care providers, and hospitalists to engage patients in care and connect to resources*
- *Increased communication has allowed for more staff members to become familiar with the use of Suboxone of SUD and for increased awareness of challenges that other team members are facing*

QUESTIONS?

What challenges/success have you had at your facilities?

