

Rural Access to MAT in Pennsylvania

The logo for PROJECT-RAMP, featuring the word "RAMP" in white capital letters on a green background.

The Rural Access to MAT in Pennsylvania project (PROJECT-RAMP) provides a robust training program with a goal to provide site-specific tailored educational interventions to practitioners to improve and sustain access to the best quality medication assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorder (OUD) in primary care settings. PROJECT-RAMP will achieve this goal by providing tailored, continuous education interventions through the life of the project. The activities will be guided and tailored to individual sites that participate in PROJECT-RAMP and will be adaptable, over time, based on practice needs. Participants at the sites include any health care practitioner or staff of participating practices who wishes to participate. This activity of PROJECT-RAMP will be directed by Dr. Adam J. Gordon, MD MPH FACP DFASAM CMRO. Dr. Gordon is a national expert in MAT, a recognized mentor in MAT care, and Directs educational and training of MAT care in regional and national systems of care. The PROJECT-RAMP educational interventions include the following:

- 1) **Live, monthly, interactive educational webinars.** The goal of these webinars are to provide basic and advanced education regarding MAT and provide a forum where learning participants from PROJECT-RAMP can interact, ask questions, and provide peer support. All webinars will be hosted on an Adobe Connect platform which allows participants to hear audio, see slides and video, and interact in a “chat room”. The webinars will provide Continuous Medical Education (CME credits) to learners and will be archived at the University of Pittsburgh Health Sciences eLearning Environment [website](#). There are three series of webinars:
 - a. **Essentials of MAT Series:** A one hour, monthly, three-part series will occur every quarter introducing learners to OUD and MAT. These sessions include topics such as assessment of OUD, office resources needed to provide MAT, and basics of MAT provision. These sessions will be recorded and archived. CME will be offered. These sessions will occur monthly (Noon-1pm on Wednesdays).
 - b. **Advanced Special Topics of MAT Series:** A one hour, monthly series will occur for 24 months where special, advanced topics of MAT will be presented. Topics include evaluation of urine drug screens, billing procedures, and addressing pain in patients with OUD. These sessions will be recorded and archived. CME will be offered. (Noon-1pm on Wednesdays)
 - c. **Question and Answer Office Hours:** A one hour session will occur monthly where ad-hoc discussions and questions/answers will occur to facilitate MAT in the participating practices. Discussions will be recorded and facilitate a dynamic “FAQ to rural MAT” resource guide for the practices. (Noon-1pm on Wednesdays, generally the last Wednesdays of the month)
- 2) **Mentor on Call Teleconsultation Service.** Participating practitioners will have access 24/7 with Dr. Gordon directly through phone, text, teleconferencing (e.g., skype) or email. Inquires can be of patient care or processes of MAT. This 1:1 service will also allow for customization of contacts with national experts or resources based on the needs of the individual sites.
- 3) **FAQ.** A repository of FAQ and answers will be available to all participants of RAMP. This document will also provide links to extensive existing resources for MAT.
- 4) **Site Visits.** If needed and requested, Dr. Gordon will visit with sites individually to facilitate MAT care or staff training.
- 5) **Facilitate training and Certification of Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, and/or Physician Assistants in Buprenorphine care.** If requested, PROJECT RAMP will provide certification training for advanced practitioners to be able to provide buprenorphine treatment in office based practices.

For questions, comments, or to sign up, please contact PROJECT-RAMP and/or Dr. Gordon at gordona@medschool.pitt.edu and/or 412-760-6119.