

# Stagewise Implementation to Target-Medications for Addiction Treatment (SITT-MAT)

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## Overview

SITT-MAT is a collaborative research project between Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA), Stanford University, and University of Wisconsin-Madison. The project is funded by a federal research grant awarded to Stanford University from the National Institute on Drug Abuse. SITT-MAT utilizes validated assessments of medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) capability and process improvement strategies to improve MOUD care throughout Washington State.

## Enrollment eligibility

Enrollment in SITT-MAT ended in July 2023. Clinics were eligible for enrollment if they were a specialty care clinic, inpatient facility, or primary care clinic in Washington State with an interest in improving or expanding their MOUD treatment program.

## Stages of support

Enrolled clinics participate in five implementation support stages of increasing intensity and cost. The first stage (November 2022-April 2023) was **enhanced monitoring and feedback**. During this stage, clinics fill out measurements that track MOUD patient outcomes that align with evidence-based procedures for providing MOUD care. Clinic dashboards track results over time which allow clinics to identify areas for improvement and make data-driven decisions.

The second stage (June 2023-November 2023) was a **two-day workshop** in which clinics learn process improvement strategies from implementation coaches and best practices for providing MOUD from addiction medicine specialists.

At the start of the third stage (January 2024-September 2024), clinics are randomized into one of two groups: **internal facilitation** or **external facilitation**.

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Clinics in internal facilitation nominate a Program Champion to lead process improvement projects within their organization. The Program Champion receives support through an online course and group coaching calls with other Program Champions. Clinics in external facilitation participate in regular one-on-one calls with a process improvement coach to identify change projects, set goals, and develop implementation plans. Clinics in the internal facilitation group also receive external facilitation support before starting the final SITT-MAT stage.

After completion of the facilitation stages, clinics will enter the final stage, **sustainment** (October 2024 – June 2026). During sustainment, clinics continue to work on the implementation plans developed during the facilitation stages while utilizing their dashboards to track progress towards their goals.

## Impact

The rigorous and focused implementation support offered by SITT-MAT provides a direct service to frontline providers and their patients.

- Over 1,200 OUD patients across 56 participating clinics received MOUD since SITT-MAT launch
- 56 clinics used their MOUD dashboards during the enhanced monitoring and feedback stage to guide data-based decision-making
- 55 clinics were offered the two-day workshop support, and 27 individuals representing 31 clinics attended
- 14 Program Champions representing 22 clinics received implementation training through the internal facilitation support stage
- 24 clinics received expert MOUD coaching during the external facilitation stage.

By integrating the expertise and resources of academic institutions, state agencies, and community clinics, the SITT-MAT initiative supports the expansion and improvement of high quality MOUD treatment across Washington State.

## Funding

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## Partners

Principal Investigator: Mark McGovern, PhD  
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[SITT-MAT Website](#)

## For more information

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