



## Administrative Policy Statement GEORGIA MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

Policy Name		Policy Number	Date Effective
Addiction Medicine and Buprenorphine Providers		AD-0868	01/01/2021
Policy Type			
Medical	<b>ADMINISTRATIVE</b>	Pharmacy	Reimbursement

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According to the rules of Mental Health Parity Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA), coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of a behavioral health disorder will not be subject to any limitations that are less favorable than the limitations that apply to medical conditions as covered under this policy.

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**A. Subject**

**Addiction Medicine and Buprenorphine Providers**

**B. Background**

Practitioners who have obtained additional education/certification to practice in the field of addiction medicine or to be a buprenorphine provider are able to help members manage their addiction.

**C. Definitions**

NA

**D. Policy**

- I. The following criteria and conditions must be met for prescribers to achieve successful credentialing with the following specialties:
  - A. Addiction Medicine
    - 1. Unrestricted MD or DO license; and
      - a. Holds one of the following:
        - 01. Certification by the American Board of Addiction Medicine;
        - 02. Subspecialty certification in Addiction Medicine by the American Board of Preventive medicine;
        - 03. Subspecialty certification in Addiction Psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology;
        - 04. Certificate of added qualification in Addiction Medicine from the American Osteopathic Association; or
        - 05. Completion of accredited residency/fellowship in Addiction Medicine or Addiction Psychiatry
    - 2. Unrestricted licensed Nurse Practitioner
      - a. Completed Nurse Practitioner Substance Use Disorder Medical Education Project (NP-SUDMedEd) training.
  - B. Buprenorphine provider
    - 1. Unrestricted MD or DO license
      - a. Registered with the Drug Enforcement Administration to dispense schedule III, IV, and V medications for treatment of pain and have a special identification number for prescribing buprenorphine for opioid dependency treatment; and
      - b. Completed required training for treatment and management of patients with opioid use disorders provided by an organization that Secretary of Health and Human Services deems appropriate i.e. American Society of Addiction Medicine, the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry, the American Medical Association, the American Osteopathic Association, the American Psychiatric Association
    - 2. Other Practitioners with an unrestricted license - Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist, Certified Nurse Midwife, or Physician Assistants
      - a. Must be in an office based setting;
      - b. Registered with the Drug Enforcement Administration to dispense schedule III, IV, and V medications for treatment of pain and have a



- special identification number for prescribing buprenorphine for opioid dependency treatment;
  - c. Completed required training for treatment and management of patients with opioid use disorders provided by an organization that the Secretary of Health and Human Services deems appropriate (i.e. The American Society of Addiction Medicine, American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry, American Medical Association, American Osteopathic Association, American Nurses Credentialing Center, American Psychiatric Association, American Association of Nurse Practitioners, American Academy of Physician Assistants);
  - d. Training or experience that demonstrates the ability to treat and manage opioid-dependent members; and
  - e. If applicable, is supervised by or works in collaboration with a qualifying physician as noted in I.B.1.
- C. All of the above provider types must comply with current state regulations.

E. Conditions of Coverage

F. Related Policies/Rules

G. Review/Revision History

	DATES	ACTION
<b>Date Issued</b>	09/30/2020	
<b>Date Revised</b>		
<b>Date Effective</b>	01/01/2021	
<b>Date Archived</b>		

H. References

1. National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors, Inc. Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016. Retrieved September 22, 2020 from [www.nasadad.org](http://www.nasadad.org)
2. Legal Information Institute. 21 US Code 823. Registration requirements. (2018). Retrieved September 22, 2020 from [www.law.cornell.edu/](http://www.law.cornell.edu/)
3. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Buprenorphine Waiver Management (2019). Retrieved September 22, 2020 from [www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)
4. American Society of Addiction Medicine. Public Policy Statement on How To Identify a Physician Recognized for Expertness in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Addiction and Related Health Conditions (2016). Retrieved September 22, 2020 from [www.asam.org](http://www.asam.org)

The Administrative Policy Statement detailed above has received due consideration as defined in the Administrative Policy Statement Policy and is approved.