

The Vermont Department of Health is committed to ensuring that Vermonters with an Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) have rapid access to high quality Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) through a variety of access points within the community in which they reside.

To produce the best possible outcomes for the individual, MAT is administered in accordance with evidence-based best practice and the most recent version of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Criteria in both outpatient and residential settings.

MAT Coverage: Under- and Uninsured

Most Vermonters have health insurance that includes coverage of MAT. Uninsured or underinsured individuals can still access MAT at little or no cost because the Health Department funds Preferred Providers, located throughout the state, to provide services when it is not affordable to individuals in need of care.

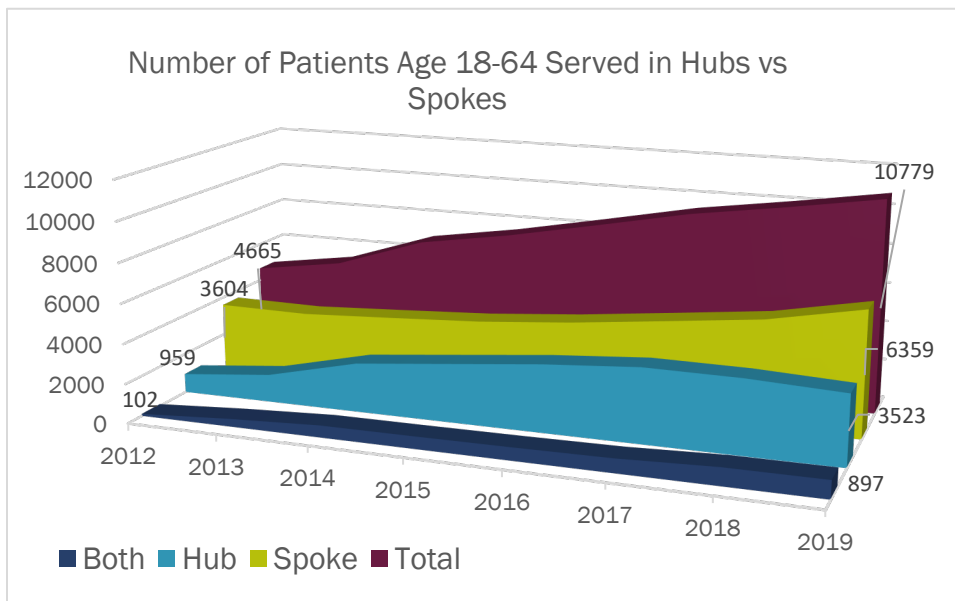
MAT Access Options by the Numbers

- 0 Number of people waiting for MAT services in hubs
- 3 Residential treatment locations
- 10 Hub locations distributed throughout the state
- 12 Designated points of contact within each health service area
- 12 Recovery Centers to assist with access and retention to MAT

More Vermonters are Receiving MAT

The total number of people receiving MAT in hubs and spokes has increased each year since the

hub and spoke system began in 2013. More people receive MAT in spokes than in hubs. Most system growth between 2013 and 2016 occurred in hubs while spokes have steadily added capacity. A smaller portion of people receive care in both hubs and spokes in the same year as the result of transfers between the two or due to leaving and re-entering care.



Access to MAT has increased in All Counties

The Rate of People Receiving MAT per 10,000 Residents Age 18-64 has Increased in all counties from 2012 to 2019. 2019 MAT rates are highest in Franklin, Orleans, and Rutland Counties and lowest in Addison, Chittenden and Essex Counties



What's New?

The Health Department has two new initiatives whose goals are to expand and enhance access to MAT for Vermonters with OUD.

VT Helplink went live in 2020. VT Helplink is a single point of contact for Vermonters seeking information, referrals, resources and support for treatment of substance use disorder. VT Helplink includes both a call center [accessed by 802-565-LINK (5465) or toll free at 833-565-LINK or through Vermont 2-1-1] and website (VTHelplink.org). Promotional messaging and marketing activities will be started in February. Vermonters will be able to make appointments directly through VT Helplink, eliminating the need for multiple phone calls and reducing complexity of accessing the treatment system.

The **Rapid Access to Medication Assisted Treatment (RAM)** initiative refines Vermont's hub and spoke treatment system for OUD by smoothing the pathways for Vermonters to access and remain in treatment resulting in a reduction in the number of days between when a Vermonter with OUD first makes contact with a treatment provider and the date they receive their first dose of medication; by raising awareness of community-based treatment/recovery services; and by integrating hospital Emergency Departments into the system of care for OUD.

Hospital Emergency Departments provide either a referral to treatment and/or start individuals on MAT.

Questions? Please contact Anne.VanDonsel@vermont.gov