

Abstract:

Does providing opiate maintenance therapy during incarceration increase participation in community treatment programs after release?

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Objective:

A question was posed on the Family Practice Inquiry Network "Does providing opiate maintenance therapy during incarceration increase participation in community treatment programs after release?"

Methods:

A literature search was performed using the research support of Northwestern Galter Library staff.

Results:

A 2017 meta-analysis of 8 RCTs, 5 secondary-analyses of RCTs, and 11 quasi-experimental studies evaluated the efficacy of MAT within prisons on patient oriented outcomes, specifically focusing on whether opiate maintenance therapy during incarceration increased participation in community treatment programs after release. Through this meta-analysis, it was demonstrated that incarcerated individuals treated with methadone were significantly more likely to participate in community treatment compared to those without treatment (4 trials, n=407. [OR] = 9.0; 95% CI = 2.5 – 31, Q = 6.3, I² = 68%).

Conclusions:

Opiate MAT during incarceration does increase participation in community substance use treatment programs following release (SOR: A, meta-analysis of RCTs and quasi-RCTs).