



## The Patient-Centered Opioid Addiction Treatment (P-COAT) Model

Nevada Medicaid

July 2021

For more information: <https://dhcfp.nv.gov/Pgms/SUPPORTActGrant/>

### What is the P-COAT Model?

The P-COAT Model is an Alternative Payment Model designed by the American Medical Association (AMA) and The American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM). The P-COAT model was developed to expand access and utilization of medication assisted treatment (MAT) while also ensuring providers are appropriately reimbursed for the services they provide. Under the current models of MAT, there are several key issues that the P-COAT Model seeks to resolve:

- Underutilization of MAT services
- Barriers to care coordination/separation in billing for medical and behavioral services
- Reimbursement may not cover all costs of providing treatment
- Administrative barriers

### Goals of the P-COAT Model

- Create a reimbursement structure to support the full range of services physicians/clinicians provide to treat OUD
- Expand the network of providers who treat OUD
- Encourage coordinated delivery of services
- Reduce/eliminate spending for ineffective or unnecessarily expensive treatments
- Utilize evidence-based care practices that lead to improved outcomes

### Structure of the P-COAT Model

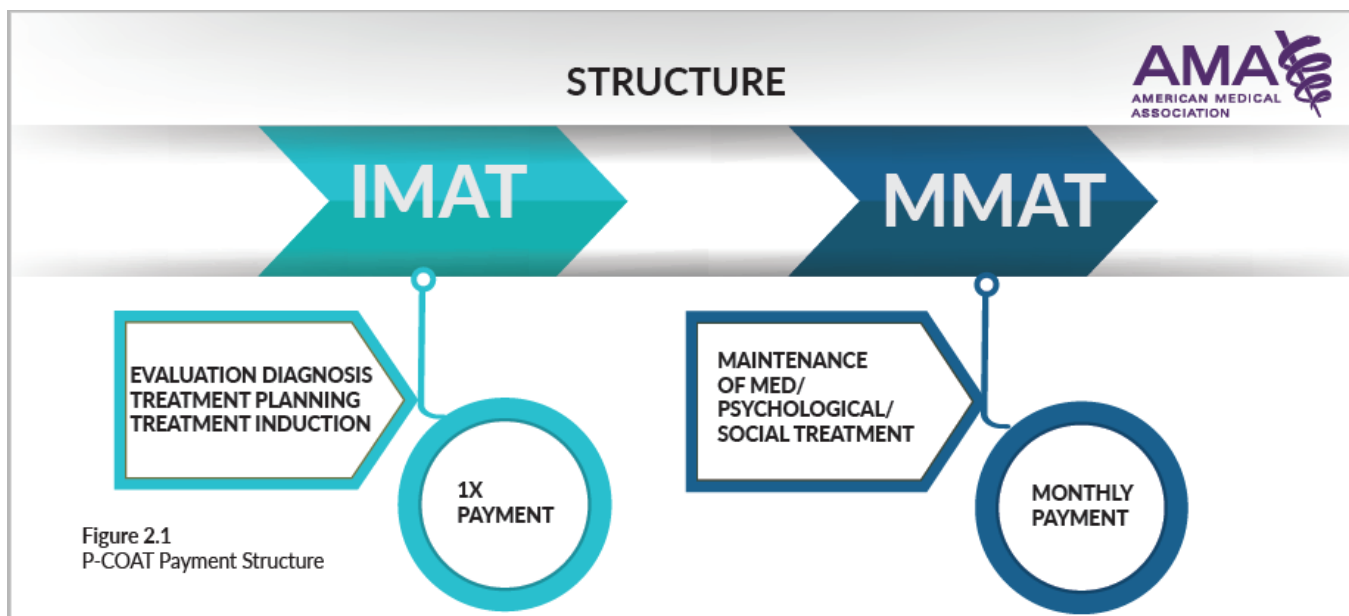


Figure 2.1  
P-COAT Payment Structure

The P-COAT Model has two phases of care:

1. Initiation of Medication-Assisted Treatment (IMAT)
2. Maintenance of Medication-Assisted Treatment (MMAT)

\* Optional Stabilization of Medication-Assisted Treatment (SMAT)

- In each phase, patients are expected to receive three types of outpatient services:
  - Outpatient medication-assisted treatment
  - Psychological and/or counseling therapy services
  - Coordination of services including case management, social support, etc.
- Payments are issued monthly, based on bundling of expected MAT services using ASAM guidance
- Rates would be established for the first year by looking at the costs of the services included in the bundled payment methodology. In subsequent years, rates would be adjusted by applying the Medicare Economic Index (MEI).

Within Nevada Medicaid's planned P-COAT model, there are two groupings of providers:

- DATA 2000 Practitioners
  - Service providers include physicians, nurse midwives, physician's assistants/associates and APRNs
  - The bundled payment for this group includes drug screening, psychiatric collaborative care management, psychiatric assessment, and medication training and support.
  - Psychotherapy services would continue to be billed outside the bundled payment and pay according to existing fee schedules.
- Opioid Addiction Treatment Team
  - Service providers include Special Clinics – Substance Abuse Agency Model (SAAM)
  - The bundled payment for this group includes drug screening, psychiatric collaborative care management, psychiatric assessment, and medication training and support. Additionally, psychotherapy services are also included in the bundled rate.
  - Services will not be billed outside the MAT service bundle.
- Patients are also divided into levels depending on their care needs.

## Performance Adjustments

The P-COAT Model is an Alternate Payment Model (APM) that also features a performance-based adjustment to the bundled rates. The performance measures for treatment and utilization measures include:

- Treatment Measure #1: Percentage of patients who filled and used prescribed medications throughout the month
- Treatment Measure #2: Percentage of patients who demonstrated compliance by only taking medications that are part of the written treatment plan at the end of the month
- Utilization Services Measure #1: Percentage of patients whose opioid and other drug-related lab testing during initiation of treatment is consistent with evidence-based practices
- Utilization of Services Measure #2: Risk-adjusted average number of opioid-related emergency department visits per patient

The performance of treatment teams is assessed and payments are adjusted based on performance.

PAYMENT STRUCTURE	RISK ADJUSTMENT
IMAT & MMAT	Good performance = Avg. performance on a measure within 2 standard deviations

IMAT & MMAT RISK ADJUSTMENT	PERFORMANCE ON TREATMENT MEASURES		
Performance on Utilization of Services	Poor	Good	Excellent
Poor on Either	-4%	-2%	0%
Good on Both	-2%	0%	+2%
Excellent on 1, good on other	0%	+2%	+4%

#### P-COAT in Nevada

- Nevada Medicaid is one of 15 states awarded a planning grant under the Substance Use Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities (SUPPORT) Act. The planning grant phase lasts 18 months.
- Of the 15 states who received a planning grant, 5 states will receive a 36-month demonstration grant.
  - States who are selected for a demonstration grant will also receive enhanced federal reimbursement for SUD treatment and recovery services.
  - Applications for demonstration grants are due August 20, 2021, with an anticipated decision date of September 10, 2021.

#### Additional Resources on the P-COAT Model and SUPPORT Act:

- ASAM Concept Document: APM for Outpatient Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder:  
[https://www.asam.org/docs/default-source/advocacy/asam-ama-p-coat-final.pdf?sfvrsn=447041c2\\_2](https://www.asam.org/docs/default-source/advocacy/asam-ama-p-coat-final.pdf?sfvrsn=447041c2_2)
- ASAM Infographic on the P-COAT Model:  
<https://www.asam.org/advocacy/federal-advocacy/ensure-equitable-access-and-coverage-for-comprehensive-high-quality-addiction-care/p-coat-apm>
- ASAM high-level summary of P-COAT Model:  
[https://www.asam.org/docs/default-source/advocacy/pcoat-brief-final.pdf?sfvrsn=507041c2\\_2](https://www.asam.org/docs/default-source/advocacy/pcoat-brief-final.pdf?sfvrsn=507041c2_2)
- Nevada Medicaid SUPPORT Act Webpage:  
<https://dhcfp.nv.gov/Pgms/SUPPORTActGrant/>

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