

Project RAMP- Training Overview

RAMP MAT Provider Training Sequence



Introduction to Project RAMP and MAT Overview (In-Person)

For health systems and healthcare providers looking to get involved with Project RAMP, the first step is to schedule an introductory meeting with the Implementation Team. During this meeting, the RAMP Implementation Team will present an overview of Project RAMP processes and goals, a general overview of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), and models for MAT implementation in primary care settings.

Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Training (In-Person)

Participation in Project RAMP involves the implementation of an SBIRT protocol for substance use disorder and data collection processes to track progress.

The RAMP Implementation Team will work with participating providers to develop and implement an office-specific SBIRT protocol through on-site meetings and trainings, including in-depth training on administering and interpreting validated screening questionnaires for substance use, conducting brief interventions using motivational interviewing techniques, and conducting referrals to specialty treatment when appropriate.

The RAMP team will identify local entities and build partnerships for referring patients to care management, SUD treatment, and mental health treatment services.

Extended-Release Injectable Naltrexone Implementation Training (In-Person)

The RAMP Implementation and Physician team will work to develop an office protocol for conducting extended-release injectable naltrexone therapy with eligible patients. The RAMP team will again provide on-site training to the office staff on this protocol, and ongoing implementation support through concierge technical assistance, data collection and reporting.

Buprenorphine Waiver (DATA 2000) Training Guide (Resource)

The RAMP team has developed a training guide to help participating healthcare providers complete the necessary steps to obtain a DATA 2000 buprenorphine prescribing waiver, including a list of local and regional trainings.

Available upon request, the RAMP team will also work with health systems to conduct an in-person DATA 2000 training, in accordance with the mandated provider education requirements for obtaining a buprenorphine prescribing waiver.

Buprenorphine Implementation Training (In-Person)

The RAMP Implementation and Physician team will work to develop an office protocol for conducting buprenorphine therapy with eligible patients. The RAMP team will again provide on-site training to the office staff on this protocol, and ongoing implementation support.

Ongoing Provider Trainings

The Project RAMP team provides ongoing training opportunities regarding best practices for conducting MAT and working with patients with substance use disorders.

Project RAMP Online Education Curriculum (Resources)

Available on <https://ramp.pitt.edu>, the project team has developed and compiled a number of resource documents, presentations, and webinars surrounding MAT and SUD. The curriculum is continually updated with new material based on feedback from RAMP providers.

Motivational Interviewing Training (In-Person)

The RAMP team can provide on-site training on motivational interviewing techniques for discussing substance use (and other health behaviors) with patients to elicit patient motivation and efficacy to make change. Supportive resources and tools have been developed to aid providers in conducting MI with patients, including pocket cards, exercises, checklists, and more.

Stigma Reduction Training (In-Person and Resource)

The RAMP team can provide on-site training on addressing and reducing stigma surrounding substance use (though the techniques provided are broadly applicable). The goal of this training is to change language used when discussing substance use to build a clinical environment where patients feel comfortable talking about their use with healthcare providers, thus improving the likelihood they will be connected with specialty care when appropriate. This training may also be conducted in a “Train-the-Trainer” format, so that healthcare systems or practices can conduct future stigma trainings as necessary.

Other RAMP Trainings – Health System Audiences and Residency Programs

In addition to training primary care providers to implement MAT in their practices, the RAMP team also offers trainings designed for large audiences, such as health system physician networks and family medicine residency programs. Trainings are generally conducted in-person at the health system, with the option to broadcast as a live webinar to additional locations.

The RAMP team will work with the requesting entity to develop a tailored training program to include any of the following educational topics:

Overview of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)

- Neuropharmacology of OUD and MAT
- Overview of methadone, buprenorphine, and naltrexone treatments and efficacy in treating OUD
- Candidate selection for MAT

Addressing Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) in Family Medicine and Primary Care

- Impact of SUD and OUD in the United States and Pennsylvania
- Role of primary care and family medicine providers in preventing and treating harmful substance misuse
- Common signs of SUD/OUD and the stages of addiction
- Introduction to the SBIRT process (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment) and Motivational Interviewing (MI)

Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) for Substance Use Disorder (SUD)

- Administering and scoring validated screening tools
- Stages of Change for health behavior
- Conducting a brief intervention using Motivational Interviewing techniques
- Identifying local and county-level substance use treatment programs and conducting patient referrals

Managing Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and Co-Occurring Behavioral Health Disorders

- Role of counseling and behavioral therapies in MAT
- Basic clinical management strategies for treating patients with OUD and co-occurring behavioral health disorders (e.g., depression, anxiety, PTSD)
- Best-practice counseling and psychosocial approaches for treating OUD patients in outpatient settings

Care Management Strategies for SUD

- Models for care management of patients with SUD/OUD
- Strategies to improve patient compliance with treatment
- Best-practices for coordination of care

Systems Transformation and Improvement (For Leadership)

- Importance of good “Organizational Health” in successful organizations
- Models and frameworks for healthcare system transformation
- Internal learning, performance measurement, and quality improvement methodologies