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Patient Engagement and Opinions of a Medication Assisted Treatment Program for Opioid Use Disorder: A Qualitative Assessment

Sarah Wagoner, Lara Weinstein, MD*

**Introduction:** Opioid use disorder is widely regarded as a national health epidemic. Stephen Klein Wellness Center 6as started a Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) program to help combat this epidemic- a program that is unique in that it does not require sustained abstinence for continued participation in the program.

**Objective:** The objective of this study is to better understand the beliefs and attitudes of patients towards a substance use treatment program that does not require sustained abstinence.

**Methods:** Five focus groups, totaling 31 participants, were assembled from patients who are current participants in Stephen Klein’s MAT program. The content of the interviews included interviewees' general opinions of the program, opinions of its’ strengths and limitations, opinions on how it differs from other drug and alcohol programs, suggestions for improvements to the program, and opinions on the fact that the program does not require abstinence for participation. Data were analyzed using a qualitative thematic approach.

**Results:** Forthcoming

**Conclusion:** Forthcoming