

OPIOID ADDICTION: A NATIONWIDE EPIDEMIC

The U.S. continues to struggle with the nationwide epidemic stemming from misuse of prescription and illicit drugs.

In 2020, there were over **93,300 DEATHS** from overdoses in the U.S.



69,000

WERE FROM OPIOIDS

IN 2020, THERE WERE MORE THAN

124 MILLION

DOSAGE UNITS OF OPIOIDS
DISPENSED IN MISSISSIPPI



Part of this epidemic can be addressed through efforts to increase treatment and prevention evidence based practices in Mississippi, including increased access to **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)**.

WHAT IS MAT?

MAT is the use of medications, in combination with psychosocial counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a “whole-patient” approach to the treatment of opioid dependence.

OPIOID USE DISORDER TREATED WITH MAT:

People will be more likely to succeed with:

- Recovery
- Child or dependent care
- Holding a job
- Complying with treatment
- Obeying the law
- Leading a healthy lifestyle

People with opioid use disorder left untreated are at higher risk for:

- Crime and recidivism
- Unemployment
- HIV, Hepatitis C, and other diseases
- Overdose and hospitalization
- Fatal overdose

DOES MAT WORK?

MAT programs provide safe and controlled levels of medication to overcome the use of abused opioids.

“Research shows that with the proper administration of the appropriate dose along with patient compliance, medications used in MAT will not have adverse effects on a person's intelligence, mental capability, physical functioning, or employability.”