



**Title:** Support Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorders

**Introduced by:** Aisha Harris, MD

**Original Authors:** Aisha Harris, MD and Jennifer Chinchilla

- 
- 1 **WHEREAS**, drug overdoses are the leading cause of injury-related death in the United States,<sup>1</sup> and
- 2 **WHEREAS**, almost 71,000 people died from drug overdoses in 2019 and over 70% of overdose deaths involved an  
3 opioid, such as prescription opioids, heroin, or synthetic opioids (fentanyl),<sup>1</sup> and
- 4 **WHEREAS**, in 2018 there were 2,599 deaths from drug overdoses in Michigan with 78% being caused by opioids,<sup>2</sup>  
5 and
- 6 **WHEREAS**, there is strong and significant evidence in clinical trials and studies that treatment of opioid use disorder  
7 with medications reduces mortality, opioid use, infectious risks, and incarcerations, and improves birth outcomes,<sup>3</sup>  
8 and
- 9 **WHEREAS**, under the Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA 2000), qualified U.S. physicians can offer  
10 buprenorphine in multiple settings, including in a clinical out-patient setting such as a physician office, and there is  
11 growing legislation to expand access to medication assisted treatment through the U.S. Department of Health and  
12 Human Services;<sup>4</sup> now, therefore, be it
- 13 **RESOLVED**, that Michigan Academy of Family Physicians promote opioid use disorder prevention and treatment  
14 resources and initiatives sponsored by organizations such as American Academy of Family Physicians and Michigan  
15 Department of Health and Human Services; and be it further
- 16 **RESOLVED**, that Michigan Academy of Family Physicians explore providing a clinical education session that  
17 addresses office-based treatment of opioid use disorder and prescribing buprenorphine; and be it further
- 18 **RESOLVED**, that Michigan Academy of Family Physicians provide members with information about the eight-hour  
19 buprenorphine waiver training courses that are recommended, at this time, for physicians to prescribe buprenorphine;  
20 and be it further

---

<sup>1</sup> Center of Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Wide-ranging online data for epidemiologic research (WONDER). 2020. <http://wonder.cdc.gov>.

<sup>2</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2018 on CDC WONDER Online Database released in 2020. Data are from the Multiple Cause of Death Files, 1999-2018, as compiled from data provided by the 57 vital statistics jurisdictions through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program. <http://wonder.cdc.gov/mcd-icd10.html>.

<sup>3</sup> Volkow ND, Frieden TR, Hyde PS, Chu SS. Medication-assisted therapies - tackling the opioidoverdose epidemic. N Engl J Med. 2014;370(22):2063-6.

<sup>4</sup> Become a Buprenorphine Waivered Practitioner. SAMHSA Website. <https://www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-treatment/become-buprenorphine-waiveredpractitioner>

21 **RESOLVED**, that Michigan Academy of Family Physicians make a public policy statement, similar to American  
22 Academy of Family Physicians' statement, supporting treatment for opioid use disorders through medication assisted  
23 treatment and behavior counseling in order to help decrease risk of opioid-related overdose deaths and other  
24 complications.