

“Effectiveness of Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use in Prison and Jail Settings: A Meta-Analysis and Systematic Review”

Methods

- Meta-analysis and systematic review of articles published in two databases about effects of medication-based treatments for opioid use disorder in prisons and jails
- 24 articles included in meta-analysis and systematic review

Findings

	Post-release treatment engagement	Post-release opioid use	Recidivism	Risky health behavior
Methadone while incarcerated	Increased likelihood of treatment engagement	Decreased likelihood of substance use One study found no differences compared to control	Mixed support or no support	Mixed support for decreased risky behavior
Buprenorphine while incarcerated	Increased likelihood of treatment engagement	No differences compared to control	No differences compared to control	No differences compared to control
Naltrexone while incarcerated	One study found increased likelihood of treatment engagement One found no differences compared to control	No differences compared to control One study found decreases in risky health behavior	No differences compared to control One study found increased treatment reduced incarcerations	No differences compared to control One study found decreased risky health behavior

TAKE-AWAYS

- ✓ Meta-analyses and systematic reviews are rigorous methods that help make sense of large bodies of literature.
- ✓ This meta-analysis and systematic review suggests there is particularly strong evidence for methadone, as well as support for buprenorphine, and naltrexone treatment in prisons and jails.

Sources:

E., Roberts, W., Reid, H. H., Smith, K. M. Z., Oberleitner, L. M. S., & McKee, S. A. (2019). Effectiveness of Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use in Prison and Jail Settings: A Meta-Analysis and Systematic Review. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment, 99*, 32–43. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsat.2018.12.003>