

TOPP Survey

Hodgins DC, Budd M, Czukar G, et al. Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder in Canadian Psychosocial Addiction Programs: A National Survey of Policy, Attitudes, and Practice. The Canadian Journal of Psychiatry. March 2022. doi:10.1177/07067437221082858

Objective

To describe current approaches in treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD) within Canadian psychosocial outpatient, day, and residential addiction treatment programs, with an emphasis on the use of opioid agonist therapy (OAT).

Methods

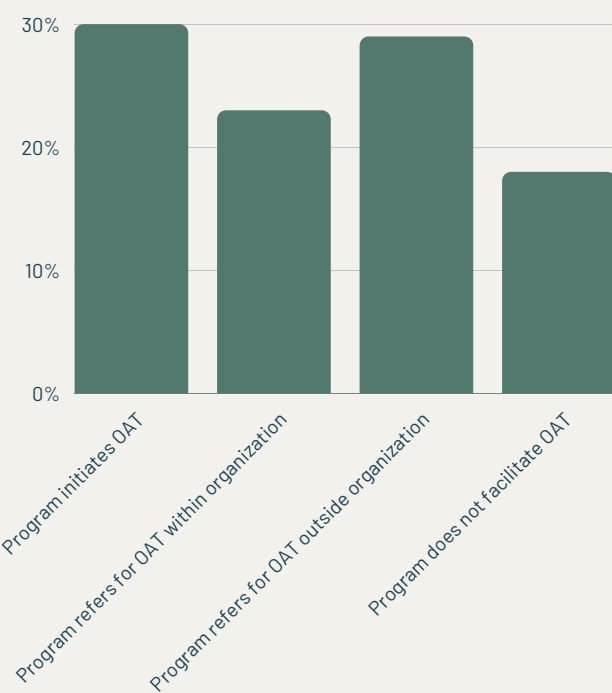
An online cross-sectional census survey was conducted in English and French of Canadian psychosocial addiction treatment programs (N = 214).

Results

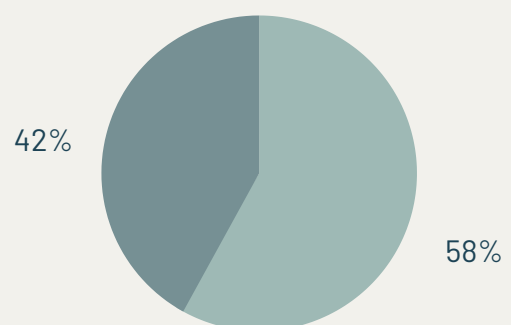
Reason for Treatment



Initiation of OAT



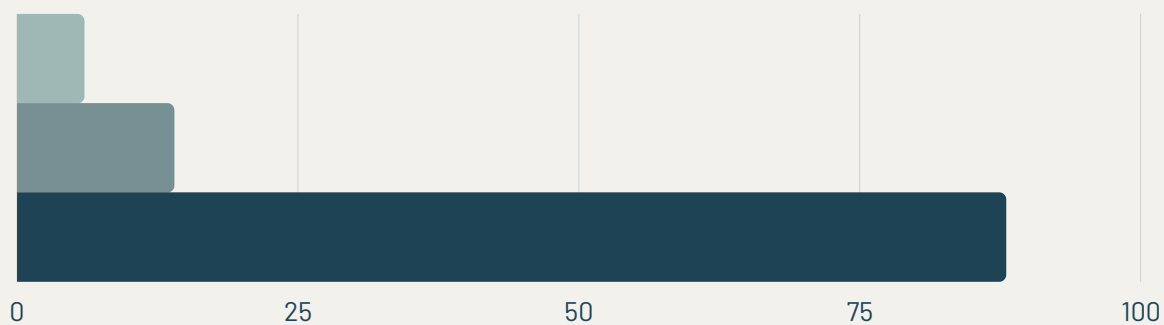
Specialized Services for OUD Clients



Just over half of programs (58%) report providing specialized treatment for OUD, most frequently providing or facilitating access to OAT (77%).

Policies and Procedures Around OAT

Encourage clients to discontinue OAT Encourage OAT taper Admit clients on OAT



32%

Of program stakeholders reported that clients with OUD experience worse outcomes.

42%

Of program stakeholders reported that clients with OUD were more likely to not complete treatment, compared to clients with other SUD.

Eighty-six percent of programs indicated that their program offers overdose response kits on site. The majority not providing kits indicated willingness if policy support and resources were provided (67%).



Conclusion

Overall, this study showed a high willingness to initiate clients to OAT (over 80%); however, the median proportion of OUD clients receiving OAT was only 28%. The results demonstrate that psychosocial programs provide some specialized services for OUD but desire further support, specifically to provide OAT, including staff training and access to individuals qualified to prescribe and dispense OAT.