

Department of Psychiatry
Division of Addiction Research and Treatment

JUSTICE TELEMEDICINE ACROSS MARYLAND (JTEAM)

CO-INVESTIGATORS

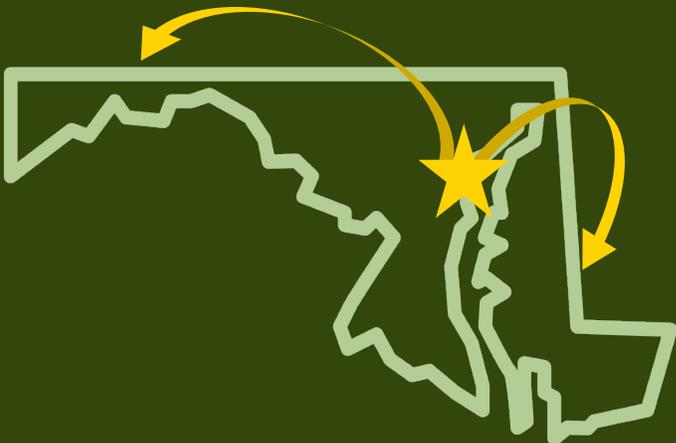
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PURPOSE

To assist rural detention centers in their readiness for future requirements of HB-116 and increase access to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) to rural incarcerated individuals in Maryland, using telemedicine.

AIMS

- 1) To assist rural detention centers in implementing and initiating MOUD programs.
- 2) To provide educational resources regarding MOUD to detention center administration and staff.
- 3) To reduce relapse, fatal overdose, recidivism, and crime across rural Maryland.



CLINICAL EXPERTISE

Since 2015, the Division of Addiction Research and Treatment has been providing telemedicine services to meet the need for MOUD for patients residing in rural areas Maryland. Since then, the Division's telemedicine-based MOUD (tMOUD) services have reached communities on Maryland's Eastern Shore and in Western Maryland. With funding provided by the Foundation for Opioid Response Efforts, the JTEAM program expands the Division's tMOUD outreach to incarcerated patients housed in local detention centers on Maryland's Eastern Shore and Western Maryland.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO CARE

The risk of opioid overdose death is disproportionately high among incarcerated individuals, particularly within two weeks of their release from incarceration. Recently released incarcerated individuals have a 12.7 times greater risk of opioid overdose death, compared to the general public¹. With a lack of providers in rural communities, telemedicine is a feasible solution to providing MOUD in rural correctional settings. The Division's tMOUD services allow for the initiation of MOUD care before discharge in a controlled, safe environment.

TECHNOLOGY

Using sophisticated HIPAA-compliant videoconferencing technology, we connect incarcerated individuals to our experienced Baltimore-based addiction treatment providers. Our information systems experts can assess detention center information technology infrastructure and provide recommendations for technology implementation. This includes the configuration of videoconferencing technology combined with a hospital grade mobile cart, and backup power supply.

RE-ENTRY CARE

Incarcerated patients are bridged to community treatment programs and providers to continue MOUD care after release. In collaboration with local health departments and detention centers, this is accomplished by coordinating care prior to an individual's release and following-up with the individual after their release.

¹ Binswanger, I. A., Stern, M. F., Deyo, R. A., Heagerty, P. J., Cheadle, A., Elmore, J. G., & Koepsell, T. D. (2007). Release from prison—a high risk of death for former inmates. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 356(2), 157-165.