



Fast Facts: AzMAT Mentors

The [Arizona Center for Rural Health](#) (AzCRH) contracted with the Arizona Department of Health Services to launch the Arizona Medication-Assisted Treatment mentorship program known as AzMAT Mentors Program. This program connects experienced and less experienced Drug Addiction Treatment Act (DATA)-waived (or x-waived) providers to increase their capacity for providing MAT services in Arizona. The goal is to improve access to evidence-based treatments for individuals with opioid use disorders.

What is MAT?

Medication-Assisted Treatment, or MAT, is a whole-patient practice that uses FDA-approved medications and evidence-based behavioral treatments to care for patients with substance use disorders.

Arizona MAT Mentoring

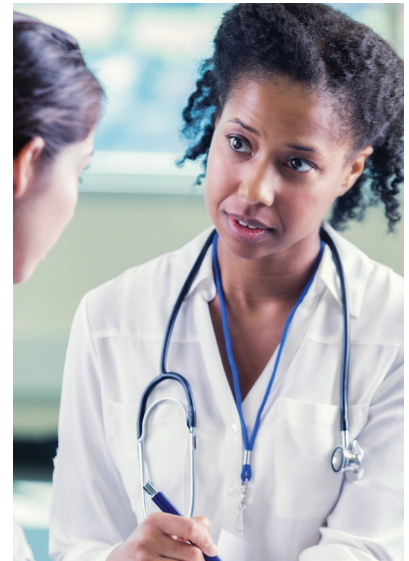
MAT providers are addiction specialists AND non-specialists who receive training through the DATA-waiver process. DATA-waived providers are allowed to prescribe buprenorphine. Research suggests:

- Many DATA-waived providers are not using or underutilizing MAT to treat their patients with opioid use disorders
- Commonly reported barriers include lack of time, expertise, the availability of behavioral health services, and concerns around diversion and patient misuse
- Collaborating with experienced providers has been identified as one solution for overcoming these barriers

The AzMAT Mentors Program includes the following activities:

1. Recruit and train experienced DATA-waived providers to collaborate with less experienced MAT providers
2. Match new, DATA-waived MAT providers with experienced providers
3. Document completed training and mentoring activities

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