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DCTS Action Memo 2022-09

To: Subscribers of the DCTS Action Memo Series Email Distribution List

From: Rose Kleman, Administrator

## Driver Safety Plans and Medication-Assisted Treatment

### Summary

This memo serves as a notice to Intoxicated Driver Program assessors and assessment agencies of the requirements of [2021 Wisconsin Act 155](#).

### Background

2021 Wisconsin Act 155 modified Wis. Admin. code ch. DHS 62 to include recommendations relative to the appropriateness of medication-assisted treatment on driver safety plan evaluations.

Medication-assisted treatment is the use of medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a “whole-patient” approach to the treatment of substance use disorders. Evidence strongly supports the use of medication-assisted treatment as an effective means in reducing substance use, retaining people in treatment services, preventing overdoses, and saving lives. There are several different medications approved to treat alcohol and opioid use disorders. Medication-assisted treatment relieves the withdrawal symptoms and psychological cravings that cause chemical imbalances in the body. Medications used for medication-assisted treatment are evidence-based treatment options and do not just substitute one drug for another.

### Impact on Intoxicated Driver Program assessors and assessment agencies

The inclusion of the medication-assisted treatment evaluations applies only to findings of suspected dependency (Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 62.07(5)(b)2), dependency (Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 62.07(5)(b)3), and dependency in remission (Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 62.07(5)(b)4). If one of these findings is determined, a recommendation for an evaluation of the appropriateness of medication-assisted treatment must be included in the driver safety plan in addition to the recommendation for substance use treatment.

Intoxicated Driver Program assessors are not responsible for conducting the evaluation for appropriateness of medication-assisted treatment during the intoxicated driver assessment. Assessors are responsible for recommending the evaluation of medication-assisted treatment as a requirement of the driver safety plan if the driver is found to have a suspected dependency, dependency, or dependency in remission. The Intoxicated Driver Program approved treatment provider evaluates the appropriateness of medication-assisted treatment for the individual.

Intoxicated Driver Program assessors should check the box for “MAT Evaluation” on the Department of Transportation’s MV3633 form when an evaluation of the appropriateness of medication-assisted treatment is recommended.

The requirement for an evaluation for medication-assisted treatment can only be applied to a driver safety plan for a driver found to have a suspected dependency, dependency, or dependency in remission. This requirement cannot be applied to other driver safety plans.

[Contact the DHS Intoxicated Driver Program Coordinator for more information.](#)

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