

# Geisinger

## Medication-Assisted Treatment Program

Helping patients beat opioid addiction

## Medication-assisted treatment

Opioid painkillers, such as Vicodin®, Demerol® or OxyContin®, are highly effective at treating short-term, acute pain. However, with the use of opioids comes the risk of addiction. People can often become addicted to these medications before they are even aware of it. Once addicted, it can be extremely difficult to quit — the mind is consumed by cravings and withdrawal symptoms are so severe that it's difficult, if not impossible, to focus on anything other than using the medication.

Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) can help. You may never have thought about the benefits of replacing one drug with another, but MAT has been proven to be an effective — and compassionate — way to overcome addiction.

## MAT treats the whole person

MAT is more than taking a medication to reduce cravings. Patients in the program receive:

- Medications to reduce cravings and prevent intoxication, should they use opiates
- Coordination with concurrent therapy and 12-step meetings designed to provide the tools for living a productive life while avoiding relapse
- Coordination with outpatient drug and alcohol counseling
- Weekly and monthly appointments with the MAT healthcare team
- Family members' help in the treatment, which enables everyone to begin the healing process

## Aren't we just replacing one drug with another?

This program's primary focus is to reduce the risk of overdose and the medical impacts of severe addictions. The MAT healthcare team will work to ensure that over time, patients are weaned to the lowest effective dose of medication.

## The MAT healthcare team

Our multidisciplinary program is led by board-certified addiction physicians with a full case management team, an addiction-trained clinical pharmacist, mid-level providers and administrative support.



## Contact the MAT Program

If you, a friend or a family member have questions about opioid dependence and addiction, consult your primary care physician. He or she can make a referral to the MAT Program on your behalf.

If you'd like to refer yourself directly to the Bloomsburg clinic location, call **570-387-2055**.



To learn more about opioid abuse  
and other available resources, visit  
**[GeisingerHealthPlan.com/HadEnough](https://GeisingerHealthPlan.com/HadEnough)**.

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[geisinger.org](https://geisinger.org)