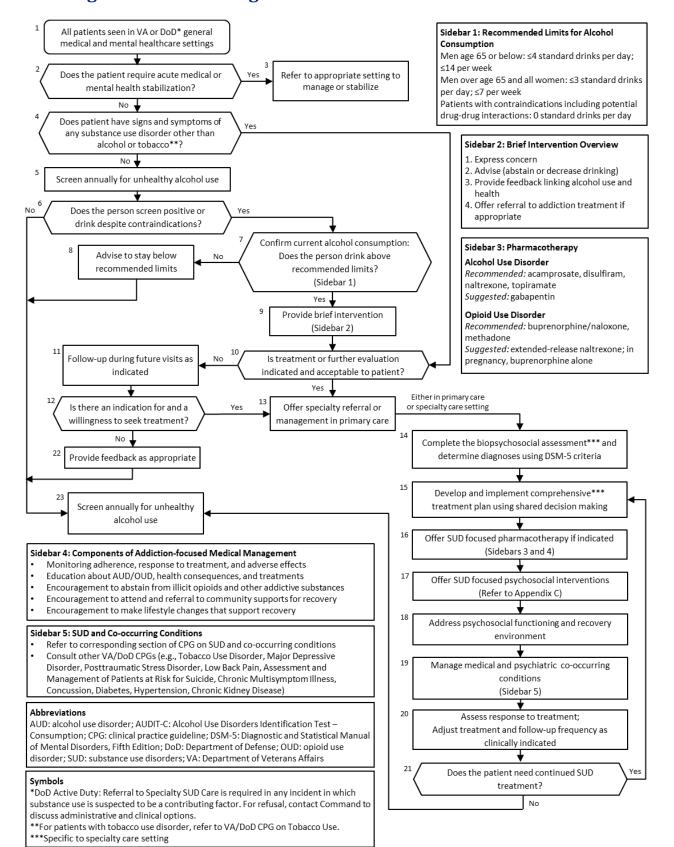
Screening and Treatment Pocket Card

Screening and Treatment Algorithm



	Screenin	se	
	Alcohol Use Disorders Ident (AUI	Single-Item Alcohol Screening Questionnaire (SASQ)	
When to use this tool	 May be preferable in the following When the clinician preference in the Any drinking (for those with the Typical drinking (for medicat the Episodic heavy drinking the Severity of unhealthy alcohood the When there is a specific service to the When an electronic medical recognition in the provide decision support 	Easier to integrate into clinician interviews	
	How often did you have a drink year?	containing alcohol in the past	Do you sometimes drink beer, wine, or other alcoholic
	Never	0 point	beverages?
	Monthly or less	1 point	(Followed by the screening question)
	2-4 times per month	2 points	4
	2-3 times per week	3 points	2. How many times in the past year
	4 or more times per week	4 points	have you had Men:
	On days in the past year when drinks did you typically drink?	5 or more drinks in a day	
	0, 1, or 2	0 point	Women: 4 or more drinks in a day
Items	3 or 4	1 point	4 of more drinks in a day
	5 or 6	2 points	
	7-9	3 points	
	10 or more	4 points	
	How often did you have 6 or m past year?	ore drinks on an occasion in the	
	Never	0 point	
	Less than monthly	1 point	
	Monthly	2 points	
	Weekly	3 points	
	Daily or almost daily	4 points	
	The minimum score (for non-drink score is 12.	A positive screen is any report of drinking 5 or more (men) or 4 or	
Cassina	Consider a screen positive for unhe is ≥4 points for men or ≥3 points fo	more (women) drinks on an occasion in the past year.	
Scoring	Note: For VA, documentation of br for those with AUDIT-C ≥5 points, f higher score for follow-up was sele rate and to target implementation screening scores <5 is left to provide		

Brief Intervention

Elements offered consistently as part of a brief intervention (BI):

- 1. Providing individualized feedback on patient's level of alcohol-related risk (i.e., mild, moderate, high) and any alcohol-related adverse health effects
- 2. Providing brief advice to abstain or drink within recommended limits

Additional components: Discussion of benefits of and effective strategies for reducing alcohol consumption; supporting patient in choosing a drinking goal when he/she is ready to make a change

Criteria to Consider Referral to Specialty Care

A referral to specialty SUD care should be offered if the patient has at least one of the following:

- Potential benefit from additional evaluation of his/her substance use and related problems
- A substance use disorder diagnosis
- Willingness to engage in specialty care

Addiction-focused Medical Management

Addiction-focused Medical Management is a manualized psychosocial intervention designed to be delivered by a medical professional (e.g., physician, nurse, physician assistant) in a primary care (or general mental health care) setting. The treatment uses a shared decision making approach and provides strategies to increase medication adherence and monitoring of substance use and consequences, as well as supporting abstinence through education and referral to support groups. While variably defined, addiction-focused Medical Management typically includes:

- 1. Monitoring self-reported use, laboratory markers, and consequences
- 2. Monitoring adherence, response to treatment, and adverse effects
- 3. Education about alcohol use disorder (AUD) and opioid use disorder (OUD) consequences and treatments
- 4. Encouragement to abstain from illicit opioids and other addictive substances
- 5. Encouragement to attend community supports for recovery (e.g., Alcoholics Anonymous [AA], Narcotics Anonymous [NA], Self-Management and Recovery Training [SMART] Recovery) and to make lifestyle changes that support recovery

Session structure varies according to the patient's substance use status and treatment compliance. An initial session (40-60 minutes) includes assessment and initial treatment. Subsequent monitoring visits typically last 15-25 minutes and occur twice weekly for the first week, tapering to once weekly then once every two weeks for 12 weeks.

Pharmacotherapy for Alcohol Use Disorder (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Diagnosis)

The table below is an abbreviated version of the table included in the full CPG. Please see Appendix B, Table B-1 for the full version of the table.

Naltrexone Oral	Naltrexone Injectable	Acamprosate	Disulfiram	Topiramate ¹	Gabapentin ¹
		Indica	tions ²		
 AUD, pretreatment abstinence not required but may improve response 	 AUD with difficulty adhering to oral regimen and willingness to receive monthly injections Pretreatment abstinence not required but may improve response 	 AUD with abstinence at treatment initiation 	 AUD with BAL=0, abstinence >12 hours, able to appreciate risks/benefits and consents to treatment Consider in patients with combined cocaine dependence 	 AUD, pretreatment abstinence not required but may improve response 	 AUD, pretreatment abstinence not required but may improve response
		Contrain	dications ³		
 Opioid-related findings, ⁴ acute hepatitis or liver failure 	 Opioid-related findings,⁴ acute hepatitis or liver failure, inadequate muscle mass 	■ Severe renal insufficiency (CrCl ≤30 mL/min)	 Severe cardiovascular, respiratory, or renal disease, hepatic dysfunction, and psychiatric disorders⁵ Combination with metronidazole or ketoconazole 	No contraindications in manufacturer's labeling	 Known hypersensitivity to gabapentin or its ingredients

¹ Not FDA labeled for treatment of AUD

² Patients should be engaged in a comprehensive management program that includes psychosocial intervention; disulfiram is more effective with monitored administration (in clinic or with spouse or probation officer).

³ Hypersensitivity to the agent is a contraindication to use for each medication listed.

⁴ Receiving opioid agonists, physiologic opioid dependence with use within past seven days, acute opioid withdrawal, failed naloxone challenge test, or positive urine opioid screen are contraindications to oral or intramuscular naltrexone.

⁵ Disulfiram is contraindicated in patients with severe and unstable psychiatric disorders (especially psychotic and cognitive disorders, suicidal ideation) and impulsivity.

Naltrexone Oral	Naltrexone Injectable	Acamprosate	Disulfiram	Topiramate ¹	Gabapentin ¹	
	Warnings/Precautions					
 Active liver disease Severe renal failure Pregnancy Category C 	 Active liver disease Uncertain effects (no data) in moderate to severe renal insufficiency Use intramuscular injections with caution in patients at risk for bleeding Pregnancy Category C 	 Watch for depression/suicidality Decrease dose in renal insufficiency Pregnancy Category C 	 Alcohol-disulfiram reaction; patients must be vigilant to avoid alcohol in all forms including mouthwash, over the counter medications, etc. Pregnancy Category C 	 Footnote⁶ Pregnancy Category D 	■ Footnote ⁶ ■ Pregnancy Category C	
	Base	line Lab Evaluation- Obto	ain urine beta-HCG for fe	males		
 Assess liver function 	 Assess liver and renal function Ensure adequate muscle mass for intramuscular injection 	 Assess renal function 	 Assess liver function and electro- cardiogram Verify ethanol abstinence 	 Assess renal function 	 Assess renal function 	
	Dosage and Administration					
50-100 mg orally 1 time daily	 380 mg 1 time monthly by deep intramuscular injection 	 666 mg orally 3 times daily, preferably with meals 	250 mg orally 1 time daily (range: 125– 500 mg daily)	 Initiate at 50 mg daily Titrate gradually to max dose of 100 mg 2 times daily 	Initiate at 300 mg on day 1 and increase gradually by 300 mg daily to target of 600 mg 3 times daily	

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⁶ Topiramate and gabapentin should not be abruptly discontinued; taper dosage gradually. Potential CNS effects may include dizziness, somnolence, cognitive dysfunction, and sedation. There is an increased risk of suicidal ideation with all anti-epileptic agents, including topiramate and gabapentin.

Naltrexone Oral	Naltrexone Injectable	Acamprosate	Disulfiram	Topiramate ¹	Gabapentin ¹
		Alternativ	re Dosing ⁷		
■ Footnote ⁷		 Consider 333 mg orally 4 times daily for patients whose body weight is <60 kg 	■ Footnote ⁷	■ Footnote ⁷	
		Dosing in Spec	ial Populations		
 Use caution in hepatic or renal insufficiency 	 No dose adjustment needed for CrCl 50– 80 mL/min Uncertain effects (no data) in moderate to severe renal insufficiency 	 Reduce dose by half when CrCl 30–50 mL/min Do not administer in severe renal insufficiency 		 Halve dose and slow titrate when CrCl <70 mL/min/1.73 m² Dosage adjustment may be required in hepatic impairment 	Consider target dose <1800 mg daily when CrCl <60 mL/min
		Adverse	Effects		
 Common: Nausea Other: Headache, dizziness, nervousness, fatigue, insomnia, vomiting, anxiety, somnolence 	 Major: Eosinophilic pneumonia, depression, suicidality Common: Injection-site reactions, nausea, headache, asthenia 	 Major: Suicidality Common: Diarrhea Other: Anxiety, asthenia, depression, insomnia 	 Major: Hepatotoxicity, peripheral neuropathy, psychosis, delirium, severe disulfiramethanol reaction Common: Somnolence, metallic taste, headache 	 Major: Paresthesia, dizziness, somnolence, loss of appetite, weight loss Other: Nervousness, fatigue, decreased concentration, memory impairment, confusion 	 Major: Dizziness, somnolence Other: Peripheral edema, fatigue

⁷ Alternative dosing schedules as follows: For oral naltrexone, 25 mg 1-2 times daily with meals to reduce nausea, especially during the first week OR 100 mg on Monday and Wednesday and 150 mg on Friday. For disulfiram, decrease dose to 125 mg to reduce side effects and, for monitored administration, consider giving 500 mg on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. For topiramate, in geriatric patients with CrCl <70mL/min/1.73m², give initial dose of 25 mg/day followed by incremental increases of 25 mg at weekly intervals until an effective dose is reached.

Naltrexone Oral	Naltrexone Injectable	Acamprosate	Disulfiram	Topiramate ¹	Gabapentin ¹
		Drug Into	eractions		
 Opioid-containing medications, thioridazine 	 Opioid-containing medications, thioridazine 	 Naltrexone, antidepressants 	 Meds and other alcohol-containing products, phenytoin, isoniazid, warfarin, monoamine oxidase inhibitors, rifampin, tricyclic antidepressants, metronidazole 	 Combination with alcohol or other CNS depressants, oral contraceptives 	 Combination with alcohol or other CNS depressants, antacids
		Moni	toring		
 Repeat liver transaminase levels at 6 and 12 months and then every 12 months thereafter Discontinue medication and consider alternatives if no detectable benefit after an adequate trial (50 mg daily for 3 months) 	 Repeat liver transaminase levels at 6 and 12 months and then every 12 months thereafter Discontinue if there is no detectable benefit within 3 months 	 Monitor renal function especially in elderly and in patients with renal insufficiency Maintain therapy if relapse occurs 	 Repeat liver transaminase levels within the first month, then monthly for first 3 months, and periodically thereafter as indicated Consider discontinuation in event of relapse or when patient is not available for supervision and counseling 	 Monitor renal function (especially in elderly and in patients with renal insufficiency) and for behavioral changes indicative of suicidal thoughts or depression Discontinue medication and consider alternatives if no detectable benefit after an adequate trial (300 mg daily for 3 months) 	 Monitor renal function (especially in elderly and in patients with renal insufficiency) and for behavioral changes indicative of suicidal thoughts or depression Monitor quantities prescribed and usage patterns Discontinue medication and consider alternatives if no detectable benefit from at least 900 mg daily for 2-3 months

Naltrexone Oral	Naltrexone Injectable	Acamprosate	Disulfiram	Topiramate ¹	Gabapentin ¹
		Patient E	ducation		
 Focus on patient compliance and commitment to treatment plan Side effects occur early and typically resolve within 1-2 weeks after dosage adjustment 	 Report injection-site reaction, any new or worsening depression/suicidal thinking Contact provider for signs/symptoms of pneumonia 	 Report any new or worsening depression/suicidal thinking 	 Avoid alcohol in food, beverages, and medications Avoid disulfiram if alcohol intoxicated May cause sedation Discuss compliance enhancing methods and provide wallet 	 Bitter tablets Do not crush, break or chew Take without regard to meals May cause sedation or decreased alertness 	 Take first dose on first day at bedtime to minimize somnolence and dizziness May cause sedation or decreased alertness
 naltrexone and contact Very large doses of optical nattrexone effects and death Opioid-based analgesial natitussives may be blifail to produce effect 	result in injury, coma, or cs, antidiarrheals, or ocked by naltrexone and viously used opioids may oxic effects of opioids		cards Family members should not administer disulfiram without informing patient		

Abbreviations: AUD: alcohol use disorder; BAL: blood alcohol level; CNS: central nervous system; CrCl: creatinine clearance; kg: kilogram(s); m: meter(s); mg: milligram; mL: milliliter(s); min: minute(s)

Pharmacotherapy for Opioid Use Disorder (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Diagnosis)

The table below is an abbreviated version of the table included in the full CPG. Please see Appendix B, Table B-2 for the full version of the table.

Methadone	Buprenorphine/Naloxone or Buprenorphine	Naltrexone Injectable		
	Indications			
 OUD and patient meets Federal OTP Standards (42 C.F.R. §8.12) 	• OUD	 OUD with pretreatment abstinence from opioids and no signs of opioid withdrawal; willingness to receive monthly injections 		
	Contraindications			
Hypersensitivity	Hypersensitivity	 Hypersensitivity Opioid-related findings¹ Acute hepatitis or liver failure Inadequate muscle mass 		
	Warnings/Precautions			
 Concurrent enrollment in another OTP Prolonged QTc interval Footnote² 	 Buprenorphine/naloxone and buprenorphine may precipitate withdrawal in patients on full agonist opioids Footnote² 	 Active liver disease Uncertain effects (no data) in moderate to severe renal insufficiency Use intramuscular injections with caution in patients at risk for bleeding Pregnancy Category C 		
Baseline Evaluation- Obtain urine beta-HCG for females				
 Baseline electrocardiogram and physical examination for patients at risk for QT prolongation or arrhythmias 	Liver transaminases	Assess liver and renal functionEnsure adequate muscle mass for intramuscular injection		

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¹ Receiving opioid agonists, physiologic opioid dependence with use within past seven days, acute opioid withdrawal, failed naloxone challenge test, or positive urine opioid screen are contraindications to intramuscular naltrexone

² Use caution in patients with 1) Respiratory, liver, or renal insufficiency 2) Concurrent benzodiazepines or other CNS depressants including active AUD 3) Use of opioid antagonists (e.g., parenteral naloxone, oral or parenteral nalmefene, naltrexone)

Methadone	Buprenorphine/Naloxone or Buprenorphine	Naltrexone Injectable
	Dosage and Administration	
 Give as single daily oral dose; individualize dosing Titrate carefully; consider methadone's delayed cumulative effects Initial dose: 15–20 mg single dose, maximum 30 mg Daily dose: Maximum 40 mg/day on first day Usual dosage range for optimal effects: 60–120 mg/day 	 Individualize dosing regimens For any formulation: Do not chew, swallow, or move after placement Sublingual induction dose: 2–8 mg once daily. Day 2 and onward: Increase dose by 2–4 mg/day until withdrawal symptoms and craving are relieved Sublingual stabilization/ maintenance dose: Titrate by 2–4 mg/day targeting craving and illicit opioid use Sublingual usual dose: 12–16 mg/day (up to 32 mg/day) 	380 mg 1 time monthly by deep intramuscular injection
	Alternative Dosing Schedules	
 Give in divided daily doses based on peak and low levels that document rapid metabolism 	 Give equivalent weekly maintenance dose divided over extended dosing intervals (every 2, 3, or 4 days) 	
	Dosing in Special Populations	
 Reduce dose in renal or hepatic impairment and in the elderly or debilitated 	 Hepatic impairment: Reduce dose For concurrent chronic pain, consider dividing total daily dose into 2- or 3-time daily administration 	 No dosage adjustment needed for CrCl 50-80 mL/min Uncertain effects (no data) in moderate to severe renal insufficiency
	Adverse Effects	
 Major: Respiratory depression, shock, cardiac arrest, prolongation of QTc interval/torsade de pointes/ventricular tachycardia Common: Lightheadedness, dizziness, sedation, nausea, vomiting, sweating, constipation, edema Less common: Sexual dysfunction 	 Major: Hepatitis, hepatic failure, respiratory depression (with intravenous misuse or combined with other CNS depressants) Common: Headache, pain, abdominal pain, insomnia, nausea and vomiting, sweating, constipation Sublingual buprenorphine/ naloxone: Oral hypoesthesia, glossodynia, oral mucosal erythema 	 Major: Eosinophilic pneumonia, depression, suicidality Common: Injection site reactions, nausea, headache, asthenia

Methadone	Buprenorphine/Naloxone or Buprenorphine	
	Drug Interactions	
 ■	 ↓ Buprenorphine levels: Footnote³ ↑ Buprenorphine levels: Footnote⁴ Opioid agonist: buprenorphine/naloxone or buprenorphine may precipitate withdrawal Opioid antagonists: May precipitate withdrawal 	 Opioid-containing medications Thioridazine
	Monitoring	
Signs of respiratory/CNS depression	 Liver function tests prior to initiation and during therapy 	 Repeat liver transaminase levels at 6 and 12 months and every 12 months thereafter
	Patient Education	
 Give strong advice against self-medicating with CNS depressants during methadone therapy; serious overdose and death may occur Store in a secure place out of the reach of children Strongly advise patient to continue in long-term methadone maintenance If discontinuing methadone, recommend transition to extended-release injectable naltrexone Serious overdose and death may occur if patient relapses to opioid use after withdrawal from methadone 	 Give strong advice against self-medicating with CNS depressants during buprenorphine/naloxone or buprenorphine therapy; serious overdose and death may occur Store in a secure place out of the reach of children Strongly advise patient to continue in long-term buprenorphine maintenance If discontinuing buprenorphine, recommend transition to extended-release injectable naltrexone Serious overdose and death may occur if patient relapses to opioid use after withdrawal from buprenorphine 	 Report any injection site reactions, new or worsening depression, or suicidal thinking Contact provider for signs and symptoms of pneumonia If signs and symptoms of acute hepatitis occur, discontinue naltrexone and contact provider immediately Very large doses of opioids may overcome the effects of naltrexone and lead to serious injury, coma, or death Opioid-based analgesics, antidiarrheals, or antitussives may be blocked by naltrexone and fail to produce effect Patients who have previously used opioids may be more sensitive to toxic effects of opioids after discontinuation of naltrexone

Abbreviations: CNS: central nervous system; CrCl: creatinine clearance; IV: intravenous; mg: milligram(s); OTP: Opioid Treatment Program; OUD: opioid use disorder; QTc: the heart rate corrected time from the start of the Q wave to the end of the T wave

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³ Drugs that decrease methadone or buprenorphine levels: Ascorbic acid, barbiturates, carbamazepine, ethanol (chronic use), interferon, phenytoin, rifampin, efavirenz, nevirapine, other antiretrovirals with CYP3A4 activity

⁴ Drugs that increase methadone or BUP levels: Amitriptyline, atazanavir, atazanavir/ritonavir, cimetidine, delavirdine, diazepam, fluconazole, fluvoxamine, ketoconazole, voriconazole

Psychosocial Interventions for Substance Use Disorders

Recommended Psychosocial Interventions by Substance Use Disorder For patients with any substance use disorder, choice of psychosocial intervention should be made considering patient preference and provider training/competence. **Stimulant Use Disorder Alcohol Use Disorder Opioid Use Disorder Cannabis Use Disorder Behavioral Couples** For patients in office-Cognitive Behavioral Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for alcohol based buprenorphine Therapy Therapy use disorder treatment: Addiction-Motivational Recovery-focused focused Medical Cognitive Behavioral **Enhancement Therapy** behavioral therapy Therapy for substance Management with Combined Cognitive General Drug choice of psychosocial use disorders Behavioral Counseling intervention based on Community Therapy/Motivational Community patient preference and Reinforcement **Enhancement Therapy** Reinforcement provider **Approach** Approach training/competence Motivational Contingency For patients in OTP: **Enhancement Therapy** Management in Individual counseling combination with one 12-Step Facilitation and/or Contingency of the above Management

Abbreviation: OTP: Opioid Treatment Program

Suggested Patient Resources

In addition to the VA/DoD SUD CPG patient summary, consider referring patients to the following resources (also included in the patient summary):

- Department of Veterans Affairs:
 - Treatment Programs for Substance Use Problems: http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/substanceabuse.asp
 - Substance Use Disorder Program Locator, which will help you find local VA Substance Use
 Disorder Treatment Programs: http://www.va.gov/directory/guide/SUD_flsh.asp?isFlash=1
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: http://www.samhsa.gov/atod
 Toll-free Number: 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727)
 For a teletype device (TTY): 1-800-487-4889
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)'s resources:

Toll-free Number: 1-800-662-HELP (4357) For a teletype device (TTY): 1-800-487-4889

- Rethinking Drinking: http://rethinkingdrinking.niaaa.nih.gov/Default.aspx
- Treatment for Alcohol Problems: Finding and Getting Help: http://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/Treatment/treatment.htm
- Seeking Drug Abuse Treatment: Know What To Ask: http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/seeking-drug-abuse-treatment-know-what-to-ask/introduction
- Alcoholics Anonymous: http://www.aa.org/
- Narcotics Anonymous: https://www.na.org/
- SMART Recovery: http://www.smartrecovery.org/
- Smoke Free Vet: <u>www.smokefree.gov/vet/</u>