

Guidance for Social Distancing

OUTPATIENT:

1. Patients 60 years old or greater:
 - a. MAT and/or Psych patients – Patients greater than 60 years of age with medical problems should be encouraged to not be on site more than necessary. We can use telephone calls for medication management. Your leadership will contact you for how we will provide counseling/individual follow-ups. **No groups or individual sessions for these people.** This is **not** for initial consultations to establish treatment for people in need of services.
 - b. OTP – move all people greater than 60 years of age to the beginning and/or the end of day. Also increase take-homes, when appropriate. **No on-premises groups for this cohort. Individual sessions will be scheduled before or after dosing, or via telehealth.**
2. All patients in Continuing Care – Call to arrange medication pick up at pharmacy of choice. This cohort should utilize telehealth.
3. Any patient with serious other chronic diagnosis – HIV/AIDS, cancer, or immunosuppression – please schedule for 1 month prescription, if medically appropriate. Make sure medications are prescribed.
4. All other MAT patients – please increase time between appointments – no patients other than sickest should be coming in weekly. Push all prescriptions out as far and safe as possible.
5. Other Psych patients – if stable. Call and prescribe for at least 1 month.
6. COTI – no transports out of county. ROACA will allow patients to come in from wherever. But patients should be referred and encouraged to attend a recovery and/or treatment services nearest to them.
7. A potential bottle neck is observed urine drug screens. Decrease observed urine screens until further notice. If you need a dip, can be un-witnessed. Otherwise, use oral swabs.

DISCLAIMER: Helio Health has developed this document to respond to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Helio Health prepared this document based on the information available to Helio Health at the time of its creation. Helio Health is sharing this document in an effort to assist other providers in responding to the pandemic. Other providers who utilize this resource are not relieved of their own duty to conduct an assessment and evaluation of each specific service recipient to make medical or clinical decisions. Providers should also conduct their own due diligence to ensure that there have not been further updates to the publicly available information regarding decision-making relating to COVID-19. Helio Health is not responsible for how other providers interpret or apply this document.

We recommend providers consult the following resources in your decision-making: CDC, NYS Department of Health, NYS Office of Mental Health, NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports and your local health department.