

SENECA COUNTY JAIL/MENTAL HEALTH/ADDICTIONS CLINIC  
VIVITROL TREATMENT PROGRAM

STANDARD NO(S):

DATE: December 15, 2015

REFER TO: Roger O. Ward

I. OBJECTIVE:

Heroin and opioid abuse have become an alarming problem in communities across New York State and the Nation. In 2013, there were 91,000 admissions for heroin and prescription opioid abuse treatment in New York State, an increase from five years ago in 2009 when admissions totaled 76,000. During this time period, New Yorkers ages 18 to 24 and 25 to 34 had the largest increases in such admissions. Nationally, nearly 500,000 people were reportedly abusing heroin or suffering from heroin dependence in 2012. Within Forensic settings Substance Abuse remains the largest factor in Criminogenic Behavior and inmates with opiate addiction present the highest risk for drug overdose death 2 weeks post jail discharge.

Use of Vivitrol is intended to add a Medication Assisted therapy tool for stabilization and recovery of incarcerated inmates with Opiate addiction or severe Alcoholism.

In an attempt to optimize inmate outcomes by reducing adverse reactions; the Naloxone Challenge (oral Naltrexone) will be initiated prior to the Vivitrol injection.

II. POLICY:

As not all inmates/patients are candidates for Medication Assisted therapy, Vivitrol. A screening process will be utilized to ensure proper candidate selection.

III. DETAILS:

**A. SCOPE OF VIVITROL TREATMENT-** Vivitrol treatment is voluntary and reflects the provision of assessment, supportive group counseling and insurance/aftercare discharge planning for inmates. Each inmate must agree to fully comply with all pre and post release assessment documentation in order to be eligible for the Vivitrol injection 1 to 2 days prior to a planned to release. Voluntary candidates must comply with the following requirements:

1. Completion of voluntary treatment participation form and releases.
2. Verification of Medical History/Clearance form confirming inmate is Opiate free for 72 hours.
3. Agreement to fully attend all offered substance abuse group activities.
4. Agreement to participate in active Discharge Planning to an Outpatient Substance Abuse Clinic or Private practitioner for follow-up Vivitrol Injection(s) and allow for verification of attendance to the after-care appointment.

**B. TREATMENT PROTOCOL-** The following is an outline of the specific steps and requirements for a Seneca County Jail inmate to participate in the Vivitrol program. The Vivitrol Program will be supervised by Mental Health/Addictions Counselor /Addictions Clinic in conjunction with Corrections, Medical and Mental Health leadership.

1. An inmate with an Opiate addiction or severe Alcohol history submits a request slip to participate in the program, is interviewed by Mental Health/Addictions Counselor, information is provided, inmate is screened as a candidate, told of group attendance and outpatient treatment adherence, insurance and blood work requirements expectations/mandates, precautions-possible side effects.
2. Medical staff completes medical clearance and labs, as clinically indicated.
3. Prior to the Naloxone challenge a participant will consent to a urine screen to assure there are no opiates within the inmates system.
4. Mental Health/Addictions Counselor will:
  - a) Initiate the discharge plan to a Vivitrol provider.
  - b) Coordinate with medical staff for participants to receive the Naloxone (25mg) challenge, 2 days prior to first injection; medication is given in accordance with medication administration recommended guidelines.
  - c) Coordinates the 1<sup>st</sup> injection to be given 1 to 2 days prior to a planned release.
5. All applicable inmates Medicaid coverage can be coordinated with the Medicaid list supplied from Seneca County Department of Social Services for immediate reactivation of Medicaid coverage.
6. Warning bracelet/dog tags and opiate use danger alert cards are given and reviewed with the inmate upon release.

### **C. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

\*Participation in the program will be revoked if the inmate does not participate completely in all suggested groups/supportive counseling

\* An inmate enrolled in the program also receiving Mental Health support and/or medications will require a dialog with the treating Psychiatrist/Nurse Practitioner.

\* Ensure adequate storage/refrigeration for scholarship Vivitrol Medication and injectable materials.

\*Program Expectations includes that a signed consent between inmate, assigned outpatient provider and Mental Health/Addictions Counselor/Addictions Clinic is completed to monitor post discharge-outpatient attendance to the intake appointment.