

**Bree Collaborative Long-Term Opioid Therapy  
Public Comments Summary**

April 20, 2020

- Background
  - Does not address legacy patients v initiation of opioids
  - Ignores 2019 HHS Interagency task force recommendations
- Engagement
  - Important to educate patients on their pain
  - Mention trauma-informed care
  - Suggestion to include multiple components that are mentioned later – e.g. treatment including acupuncture, psychology, function as goal
  - Time consuming
- Assessment
  - Need to assess sleep hygiene
  - Need for additional diagnostic testing
  - Need for additional or condition specific validated instrument
  - PCPs would not be able to perform assessment
  - Should include a fellowship trained and board-certified pain medicine subspecialist when possible
  - Providers query EDIE once or twice yearly to assess for ED visits for pain/OD/pulmonary disease, suicidal attempts/ideation.
  - Add health record review for Hepatitis C (proxy for h/o IVDA)
- Develop a treatment plan
  - Include interventional pain procedures
  - treatment plan...be expanded to include a complete list of therapy options, including device-based therapies
  - Add formal pain conferences
  - Pain medication stratification in high risk patients with formal psychology consultations/pain medicine specialists involvement
  - Add appropriate involvement with surgeons who have a better understanding of pain
  - Clarify patients are those without obvious or with mild bodily pain generators often with symptoms more due to sensitized nervous system
- Maintain and Monitor
  - Pathways too non-specific (e.g., define serious adverse events)
  - What about Lyrica/gabapentin?
  - Each treatment option also includes counseling, prescription (or dispensing) of naloxone.
  - Add timeline (e.g., maintain and monitor for 6 weeks) beyond that patients deserve Interventional Options
  - Critique of WAC timeline to review prescribing
- Tapering or Discontinuation
  - Table 1 implies OUD=addition, too stigmatizing, remove addition language
  - Function can be difficult to assess e.g., patient with spinal cord injury

- Commented [MJ(1):** The guideline focuses on legacy opioid not on initiating COT
- Commented [MJ(2):** Not relevant to scope of this guideline
- Commented [MJ(3R2):** Review of all possible treatment for chronic pain was not in scope of this guideline/review. Additionally, the main stated purpose for HHS task force review is to identify research gap in chronic pain care.
- Commented [MJ(4):** Added a sentence under Engagement
- Commented [MJ(5):** Already addressed under Assessment
- Commented [MJ(6R5):**
- Commented [MJ(7):** See Assessment section
- Commented [MJ(8):** See Health System section
- Commented [MJ(9):** Added to Assessment section
- Commented [MJ(10):** Added a sentence in Assessment introduction
- Commented [MJ(11):** Guideline focuses on practical, publically available brief instruments for use in primary care
- Commented [MJ(12):** Only available for EDs
- Commented [MJ(13):** Added to comorbidities
- Commented [MJ(14):**
- Commented [MJ(15R14):** Not in scope of guideline
- Commented [MJ(16):** Not in scope of guideline
- Commented [MJ(17):** ?
- Commented [MJ(18):** Addressed in Assessment section
- Commented [MJ(19):** Not in scope of guideline
- Commented [MJ(20):** Already considered, consensus to remove
- Commented [MJ(21):** See Appendix D
- Commented [MJ(22):** Not in scope of guideline or review
- Commented [MJ(23):** Added to Treatment Pathways intro
- Commented [MJ(24):** Not in scope of guideline
- Commented [MJ(25):** Not in scope of guideline
- Commented [MJ(26):** Changed to OUD
- Commented [MJ(27):** See Assessment section

- “Avoid dismissing patients from care” may need caveats such as, “unless clinically indicated”
- Provider who originally prescribed should be responsible
- Naloxone
- Add interventional pain procedures
- Add line protecting physicians who feel that high doses might be justified for certain conditions/situations (ie: muscular pain) although patients vehemently believe they should continue therapy. A patient’s desire to continue opiate therapy should not alone justify continued prescription.
- Interventions listed not covered by payors
- Prefer tizanidine 2mg TID over clonidine due to hypotention
- Medications for Opioid Use Disorder
  - Add off label type treatments
  - Link to another more detailed guide
  - PCPs or pain Drs should not be managing people with OUD
- Health Systems
  - These interventions are not realistic, favors larger systems.
  - Six building blocks helping clinics make changes when collaborative care not feasible.
  - Interventional pain management
  - Define SIMP
  - Other terminology issues (e.g. multidisciplinary vs interdisciplinary)
  - Need better reimbursement
  - Develop centralized prescribing/deprescribing clinic
- Evidence
  - Skewed to least expensive not most effective
  - Add positives for opioids
  - Make an appendix. Organize with intros for each section.
  - Gabapentin
  - Need more on interventional pain management
  - Suicidality as comorbidity
  - Nore up-to-date reference on harms from long-term opioid therapy than the one you cite here: Chou R, et al. Ann Intern Med. 2015;162:276-286. doi:10.7326/M14-2559
  - Appendix F appears to have been copied from another document, and the first statement “These criteria not considered to be met for those individuals taking opioids solely under appropriate medical supervision.” requires some context. As noted here, it is not clear.
- General
  - Lack of interventional pain physicians on workgroup
  - Add section on telehealth
  - Re-organize sections to clearly state the gap the section is filling (e.g, the documents that are being updated)
  - Buprenorphine for pain

- Commented [MJ(28)]: Recommendation is from HHS guideline
- Commented [MJ(29)]: ?
- Commented [MJ(30)]: Added to Treatment Pathways intro
- Commented [MJ(31)]: Not in scope of guideline
- Commented [MJ(32)]: Not focusing on condition specific for treatment pathway
- Commented [MJ(33)]: ?
- Commented [MJ(34)]: Already in table 2
- Commented [MJ(35)]: There are effective FDA approved treatment for OUD
- Commented [MJ(36)]: Already have a link to Bree Treatment for OUD guideline
- Commented [MJ(37)]: Not in scope of guideline, scope of practice
- Commented [MJ(38)]: Agree not currently, broadly available but health systems should strive to implement or provide access to these services
- Commented [MJ(39)]: Already mentioned in Bree Collaborative Care guideline
- Commented [MJ(40)]: Not in scope of guideline
- Commented [MJ(41)]: Multidisciplinary term was used in the Bree Collaborative Care guideline
- Commented [MJ(42)]: Agree, see recommendation under Health Plan
- Commented [MJ(43)]: ?
- Commented [MJ(44)]: Intervention is out of scope
- Commented [MJ(45)]: See Maintain and Monitor section
- Commented [MJ(46)]: ? See Appendices
- Commented [MJ(47)]: Not in scope of guideline
- Commented [MJ(48)]: Not in scope of guideline
- Commented [MJ(49)]: See Assessment section
- Commented [MJ(50)]: Actual comment is about intervention, not in scope of guideline
- Commented [MJ(51)]: Context provided in title of appendix and end of document
- Commented [MJ(52)]: Not in scope of guideline
- Commented [MJ(53)]: Added under Health System
- Commented [MJ(54)]: ?
- Commented [MJ(55)]: Not in scope of guideline. Guideline did not address differential effectiveness of