

# Western University MAT Curriculum Overview

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MAT Expansion- Hub and Spoke System Project



## Medication Assisted Treatment



Welcome to the Western University of Health Sciences online course on Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). This course was designed through a partnership between Western University of Health Sciences and CLARE|MATRIX. WesternU is one of the largest graduate health sciences universities in the region, with nine colleges in two states. For 40 years, WesternU has had a special mission: Educating tomorrow's healthcare professionals with a combination of scientific excellence and a humanistic, compassionate approach to patient care. In 2018, two Los Angeles nonprofits dedicated to recovery from substance use – CLARE Foundation and The Matrix Institute on Addictions – merged to form CLARE|MATRIX. With over 80 years of combined experience, CLARE|MATRIX is positioned to deepen and expand impact with the powerful combination of treatment, prevention, behavioral health support, research and training.

Together, WesternU and CLARE|MATRIX have created this online course on Medication Assisted Treatment. This is the first of many courses we will develop to help our current and future healthcare professionals care for those affected by substance use disorders.



# medication assisted treatment



Title

What is an Opioid?

Opioids in the Brain

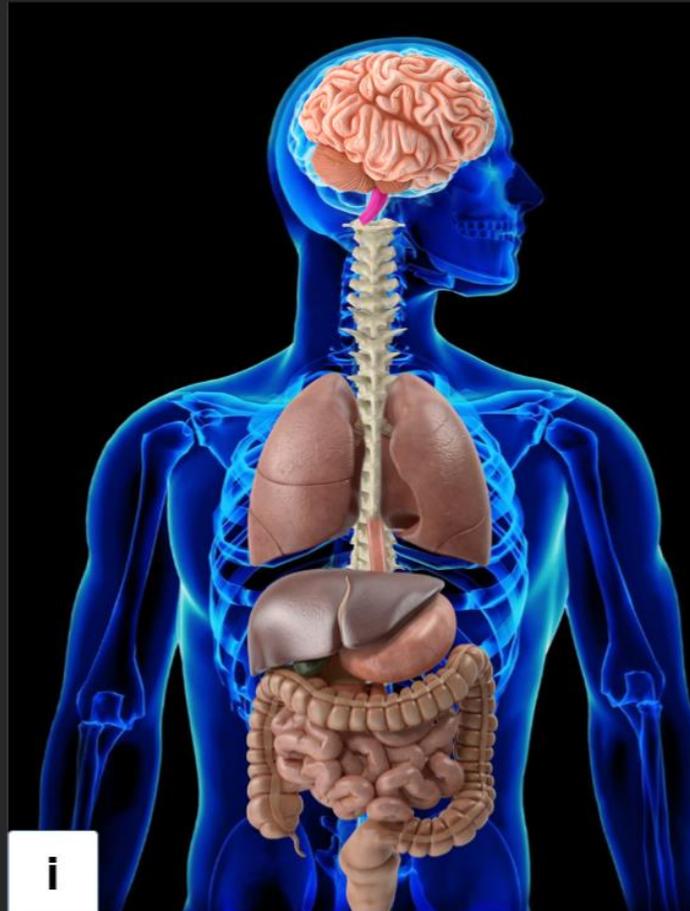
Opioids in the Body

The Reward Pathway

Signs of Dependence

Cycle of Addiction

Treatment for Addiction



## OPIOIDS IN THE BODY

Opioid receptors are located in the brain, brain stem, spinal cord, intestines and other organs. When endorphins, our body's naturally made opioids, are released or when opioid drugs are taken, they bind to opioid receptors in the brain and body to regulate functions including pain, pleasure, breathing and digestion.

Click on the body part to learn about the effects of opioids on that system. Then click Next.

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**IN 2017, MORE THAN  
47,600 AMERICANS  
DIED FROM OPIOID  
OVERDOSES**

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Medication tends to be more readily abusable if it has a rapid onset and short duration of action, is highly potent, and is smokable or easily ingested.

Truth

Myth



I believe people with opioid use disorder are demonstrating a lack of strength or lack of character.

I do not agree with this statement at all



I strongly agree with this statement

Slide the bar to the place on the scale most consistent with your beliefs and attitudes about people with opioid use disorder.

Once you have made your selection, click on the Confirm button, then click the forward icon.



# Outcomes

- 587 out of 612 eligible students from Podiatry and Osteopathic Schools completed the curriculum
- Pretest conducted before curriculum
- Post-test conducted after 10 modules
- Attitudinal scores before, during and after using Visual Analog Scale (VAS)
  
- Pre-test mean was 3.59. Post-test was 6.78
- Initial VAS mean -26.97; Final VAS mean -39.27