



# Louisiana State Opioid Response (LaSOR) Project

LSU Health Sciences Center—New Orleans

Department of Psychiatry

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## LSUHSC—New Orleans LaSOR Staff

- Dr. Howard Osofsky, Chair of Psychiatry Department and Principle Investigator
- Dr. Tony Speier, Project Advisor
- Dr. Maeghan Davis, Addiction Psychiatry Faculty
- Dr. Lee Michals, Addiction Psychiatry Faculty
- Michelle Hamrick, LCSW, Program Manager
- Bryan Franks, MS, Project Coordinator
- Gynell Nelson, RN, Lead Nurse
- Spoke Care Teams (SCT)—10 RNs and 10 LMHPs statewide

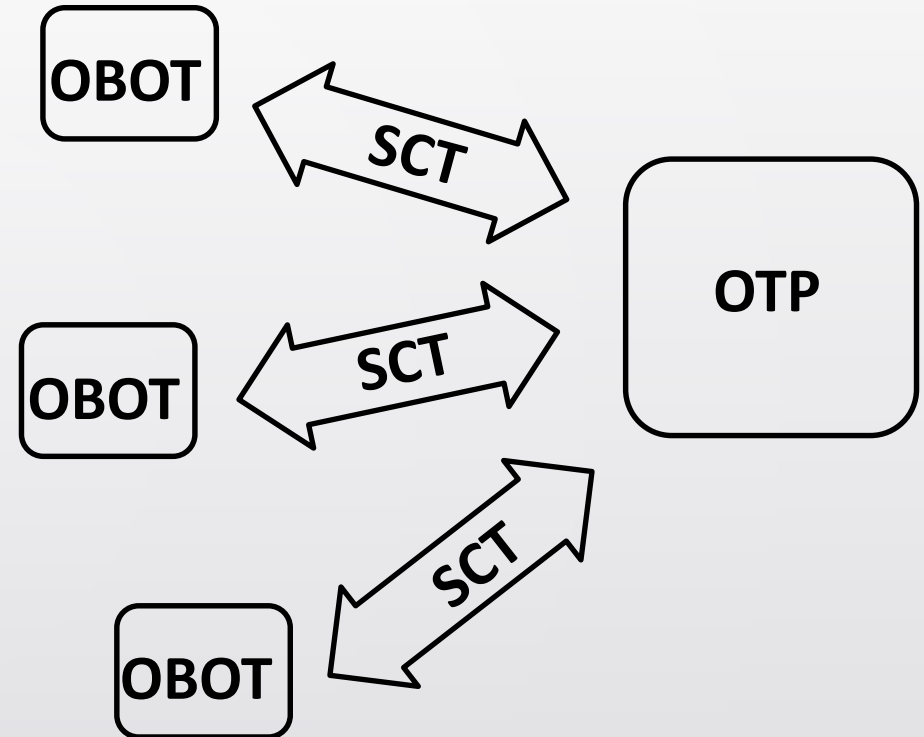


# LSUHSC's Role in LaSOR

- Enhance and expand the capacity of OUD treatment
  - Recruit 50 office-based opioid treatment (OBOT) providers to deliver MAT utilizing a hub-and-spoke model
  - Distribute Narcan to LaSOR patients and staff for emergency use
  - Provide case consultations to OBOTs by LSUHSC Addiction Psychiatry faculty
- Target populations include the under and uninsured and pregnant females with OUD

# Hub & Spoke Model

- **Hubs:** Opioid treatment programs (OTPs)
  - Methadone clinics in each LGE
- **Spokes:** Office-based opioid treatment (OBOTs) providers
  - FQHCs, hospitals, private practices, outpatient providers, psychiatrists, etc.
- **Spoke Care Teams (SCT)**
  - RN and LMHP provided by LSUHSC





## LaSOR Benefits to OBOTs

- SCT Team works directly with OBOT staff to support treatment
  - Screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment (SBIRT) services, clinical assessment, case coordination, recovery support
- Financial compensation for case consultations between prescriber and SCT
  - \$300 for initial visit and \$150 for monthly visits thereafter
- Able to bill Medicaid for reimbursement for services
- LSUHSC Addiction Psychiatry staff available for professional consults



# Case Consultations

- LSUHSC—NO Addiction Psychiatry Faculty
  - Dr. Maeghan Davis
  - Dr. Lee Michals
- Offer professional case consultation to OBOT prescribers
- Act as subject-matter experts for the LSUHSC LaSOR team
- Conduct trainings for prescribers to obtain X-waiver—39 prescribers trained to date





# Project ECHO & Academic Detailing (Tulane)

- Project ECHO
  - Increase knowledge of and access to evidence-based practices for OUD
  - Utilizes technology to provide lectures and case presentations for prescribers
- Academic Detailing
  - Involves an initial needs assessment followed by tailored recommendations for improving a clinic's practices



# LaSOR Project Updates

- LaSOR fully staffed since November 2019
- To date, have 31 active OBOTS—each region has 2 or more
  - Currently in various stages of recruiting/contracting with an additional 14
- 241 patients seen to date—average 46 monthly new client intakes in Year 2
- Plans to conduct an additional X-waiver training





# Project Successes

- OBOT Diversity: FQHCs, LGEs, Hospitals, Addiction Treatment Programs, Private Practices, and Urgent Care Centers
- Have active OBOTs throughout the state
- Recruiting an entire SCT team with experience in treating SUDs
- Providing two X-waiver trainings to 39 providers statewide
- Motivated prescribers who did have their X-waiver to use it
- Utilization of Telehealth
- Encouraged use of multiple medications for treating OUD



# Project Barriers

- Shortage of qualified staff in the state, especially rural areas
- Lack of X-waivered prescribers in the state and physician reluctance
- Stigma about MAT and resistance to switching to a treatment model from an abstinence model
- OBOT and prescriber turnover
- Onboarding requirements at OBOTs can delay start treatment
- Lengthy contracting and hiring processes



# Building Capacity

- LaSOR Project has expanded statewide capacity in the following ways:
  - Encouraged more prescribers to obtain or use their X-waiver
  - Provided X-waiver trainings to prescribers
  - Recruited multiple types of prescribers: Nurse Practitioners and Physician's Assistants are also eligible to apply for an X-waiver not just physicians
  - Ensured that multiple OBOTs are available in each region throughout the state
  - Emphasis on underinsured and pregnant females as patients expanded care for those who often cannot find or afford OUD treatment



# Sustainability

- LaSOR Project has tried to ensure sustainability in many ways:
  - Recruiting a variety of organizations to offer MAT—makes treatment available in more types of setting and more locations throughout the state
  - Prioritizing potential OBOTs that have wraparound services such as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)
  - Giving preference to organizations that are Medicaid providers and encouraging them to apply if they are not one already



# Recommendations

- Educate prescribers and general public about MAT—stigma reduction
- Incentivize prescribers: financial, clinic set-up and improvement, service reimbursement
- Implement and expand the use of telehealth to support MAT
- Link providers with resources such as Project ECHO and SAMHSA’s Providers Clinical Support System (PCSS) <https://www.samhsa.gov/providers-clinical-support-system-medication-assisted-treatment>
- Encourage organizations with wraparound services (e.g. FQHCs) to offer MAT



# Thank You

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  - Karen Stubbs and staff
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  - Peyton Fisher
  - Leonard Briscoe





# Questions?

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- **List of LaSOR OBOTs:**

- <http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/3579>