

# Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE)

## 8 Hours Continuing Education (Virtual)

J. William “Bill” Claytor, Jr., DDS, MAGD

Executive Director, N. C. Caring Dental Professionals

Section 1263 of the ‘Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023’, otherwise known as the **Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act**, requires new or renewing Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registrants, as of June 27, 2023, to have completed a total of at least 8 hours of training on opioid or other substance use disorders, as well as the safe pharmacological management of dental pain.

The course will concentrate on prevention, recognition, and care of people with substance use disorders, including those with concurrent pain and/or psychiatric and medical co-morbidities.

This course will be **8 hours** in length divided into **4 two-hour sessions** taught through a virtual platform including the following disciplines:

### MATE Course Description:

#### 1. Substance Use Disorders

- The neurobiology of addiction (substance use disorders) and criteria for the different levels of SUDs according to the DSM-V.
- Use of validated screening tools for SUD and risk factors for substance use, including mental disorders.

- Diagnosis and assessment of individuals who screen positive for SUDs.
- Discuss the FDA-approved medications for SUDs (opioids, alcohol and tobacco), including the impact of unique, individual physiology and metabolism on medication pharmacodynamics.
- Consideration of polysubstance use and co-occurring mental disorders.
- Patient and family education on safety and overdose prevention (diversion control; safe storage; use of naloxone).

## **2. Mental Health Disorders and Substance Use**

- Discuss the effects stress, anxiety, burnout, perfectionism, and substance abuse can have on our mental health and how it may affect our lives.
- Explore the impact and potential interactions associated mental health illness and substance use disorders.
- Define burnout and its applicability to the dental office with recommended solutions addressing the Six (6) Burnout Mismatches found in our offices and personal lives that may lead to substance use.

### **3. Effective Treatment Planning**

- Use of patient-centered decision making and paradigms of care, and use of evidence-based communication strategies such as shared decision making and motivational interviewing (SBIRT, CAGE, AUDIT).
- The impact of stigma, trauma and the social determinants of health on substance use and recovery.
- Collaborating with other disciplines to facilitate access to medications and referrals to services such as case management.
- Legal and ethical issues involved in the care of patients with SUD.

### **4. Pain Management and Substance Misuse**

- The assessment of patients with acute, subacute, or chronic pain focusing on acute dental pain management.
- Components of developing an effective treatment plan, including general principles underlying nonpharmacologic and pharmacologic analgesic therapy, as well as the importance of multidisciplinary treatment interventions.

- Recognizing signs of OUD in the setting of prescribed opioids and how to manage dental patients presenting with these conditions.
- Practical information specific for the dentist on managing a person in recovery (abstinence) and a person still using illicit drugs requiring an opioid for dental pain management.

## MATE Course Goals & Objectives

- Describe reasonable standard of care for pain management before, during and after dental care.
- Explore methods on effectively communicating information on the proper use of opioids and other controlled substances for post-op discomfort and pain management.
- Identify patients who may be using opioids, cannabis, or other drugs and how to manage them.
- Provide information that will help the practitioner understand the importance and impact opioids potentially can have on our patient population and dental practice.