What is Opioid Use Disorder?

Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)
Commonly referred to as opioid addiction, OUD is a chronic, relapsing disease that changes the brain. OUD is characterized by signs and symptoms reflecting compulsive, prolonged self-administration of opioid substances for no legitimate medical purpose or in doses greatly in excess of the amount needed for a medical condition, despite harmful consequences.

OUD impacts people from all walks of life.

11.8 million Americans aged 12+ years engaged in misuse of opioids in the last year.

70% of the negative health impact associated with drug use disorders is accounted for by opioids in 2015.

4X the number of opioid overdose deaths since 1999.

~4 people die of opioid overdose every hour.

The opioid crisis is now a U.S. public health emergency.

$504 billion in economic costs due to the opioid epidemic in 2015.
The patient journey to treatment and recovery is complex, with many barriers.

There are many different types of treatments for substance use disorders:

- Counseling
- Inpatient + outpatient programs
- 12-Step fellowship
- Peer supports
- Medication

Medication-assisted treatment is an evidence-based treatment option for opioid use disorder, and buprenorphine medication-assisted treatment, or BMAT, is a proven, effective treatment. Decades of clinical research and doctor and patient experience have shown BMAT can give patients the help they need to successfully overcome their addiction.

To learn more about this epidemic and get help visit: https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help.