



Advancing Health Care Policy
for Mental Health and Addiction

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ABHW Comments on DEA Proposed Rule on Narcotic Treatment Programs

Washington, DC (April 24, 2020) – The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW), the national voice for payers that manage behavioral health insurance benefits for over 200 million people, submitted comments on the Drug Enforcement Administration’s (DEA) proposed rule on Registration Requirements for Narcotic Treatment Programs with Mobile Components (proposed rule).

ABHW strongly supports the DEA’s proposed rule and thanks the Agency for the opportunity to comment. The following comment should be attributed to ABHW:

ABHW members are committed to ensuring patients with SUDs receive the best care possible. We are particularly interested in curbing the opioid epidemic and supporting a continuum of evidence-based, person-centered care to treat individuals with an opioid use disorder (OUD), including medication assisted treatment. Given the growing opioid epidemic compounded with the current pandemic, we feel it is even more prudent to increase access to SUD treatment. Narcotic Treatment Programs (NTPs) serve an important role in combating SUDs. This proposed rule, which allows NTPs to treat mobile components as a part of the registered NTP instead of requiring the mobile component to register with the DEA separately, is a logical step to ensure SUD patients have better access. Since the clinic providing the NTP is already registered with the DEA, registering the mobile component associated with that clinic is not necessary. As such, ABHW strongly supports the DEA’s proposed rule.

Read ABHW’s full comments >> [HERE](#)

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[ABHW](#) is the leading health plan association working to improve access and quality of care for mental health and substance use disorders. ABHW’s members include national and regional health plans who care for more than 200 million people. Together we work to reduce stigma and advance federal policy on mental health and addiction care. Member companies - Aetna Behavioral Health, AmeriHealth Caritas, Anthem, Centene Corporation, Cigna, Kaiser Permanente, Magellan Health, New Directions Behavioral Health, and Optum.