



# **MAT Standards (Medication Assisted Treatment Standards)**

## **What are they going to do?**

### **Why are there new standards?**

Currently in Glasgow City we have a variety of medication options available in our Alcohol and Drug Recovery Services, including: Methadone, Buprenorphine and a pilot of heroin assisted treatment. We are also able to offer same day prescribing at many of our treatment services. We want to offer this choice of medication accompanied with psychological, social and trauma informed support consistently across the whole city.

The Scottish Government have developed these standards to ensure consistency across the country and to improve both the number of people in treatment and the quality of services they receive. We are working hard to embed all 10 standards. To find out more and read the full document, go to: [www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot) and search 'MAT Standards'.

### **What is Medication Assisted Treatment?**

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) is one of the most effective interventions to support people to reduce their use of street drugs and the harms they are suffering. MAT is the use of prescribed medication, delivered with psychological and social support to reduce drug harms, the risk of drug death and promote recovery. This is what we want for Glasgow City.

### **What does this mean for me?**

If you need to access treatment or support, the new standards, once implemented, mean:

- If clinically appropriate, you will be able to access medical treatment for some drug issues on the day of presentation
- You can nominate someone to support you, including a family member, to make an informed choice on what medication to use for MAT, and the appropriate dose

“The MAT standards will help my friends find their way to recovery with a choice of treatment and lots of support when they need it.”

- SCR N Volunteer

- You will be offered harm reduction advice and interventions to stay safe when you access services
- You will receive support to remain in treatment for as long as you wish and will be supported to exit treatment safely and enter person centred recovery when you wish

"The MAT Standards should make it easier for families to help their loved ones get the treatment they need – whatever treatment that is"

- Family member

### **If you are helping someone accessing drug treatment services:**

- With the permission of the individual, you can be involved in care plan choices and will be encouraged to support the person in following their treatment plan
- If you contact a service with immediate concerns for the safety of yourself, your loved ones, or anyone else, you will receive appropriate and timely support, advice and guidance
- You will also have a named staff member as your main point of contact with services and are confident that services are working together and sharing information appropriately

### **Access to Glasgow Alcohol and Drug Recovery Services (GADRS):**

For immediate access to support, call:

North East ADRS	0141 565 0200
North West ADRS	0141 800 0670
South Glasgow ADRS	0141 276 8740
Complex Needs Team	0141 553 2801

If you have any concerns that you are not being listened to or understood by services, the Advocacy Service offers independent, professional support to people experiencing alcohol and drug problems:  
0141 420 0961