



# High Impact Practice Set (HIPS) for Outpatient Settings: Caring for People with Substance Use Disorder to Improve Maternal Health

Substance use disorder (SUD) is a major cause of maternal morbidity and mortality. Sexual and reproductive health care providers have an opportunity to improve maternal health outcomes by supporting clients with SUD. This job aid presents high impact practices to care for people with SUD in the outpatient sexual and reproductive health setting, along with resources to support implementation.

★ Indicates a key practice

## Readiness

HIGH IMPACT PRACTICE	RESOURCE
Provide clients with information related to SUD, harm reduction strategies, and support resources, as indicated.	<a href="#">Recovery Is Possible for Everyone: Understanding Treatment of Substance Use Disorders</a>
Prescribe or dispense naloxone to individuals at elevated risk for opioid overdose, and to their friends and family.	<a href="#">Naloxone (CDC)</a> <a href="#">Prescribe to Prevent</a>
Train staff on substance use disorders, including how to provide trauma-informed care to clients with SUD.	<a href="#">CDC Addiction Medicine Toolkit: Training Modules</a> <a href="#">Substance Use &amp; Family Planning Webinar Part 1</a>
Engage relevant partners and collaborate to increase linkages between sexual and reproductive health and SUD services.	<a href="#">Engaging Diverse Community Partners Job Aid</a> <a href="#">Increasing Linkages Between Sexual and Reproductive Health and Substance Use Service Settings</a>
Develop and maintain a set of referral resources, and foster communication with other health and social service providers to enhance services and support for clients with SUD.	<a href="#">FindTreatment.gov</a> <a href="#">Local Resource List</a>

## Recognition and Prevention

HIGH IMPACT PRACTICE	RESOURCE
★ Verbally screen all clients for SUD using validated self-reported screening tools.	<a href="#">Implementing Substance Use Screening Toolkit</a>
★ Provide clients with SUD with a warm referral for additional services and resources.	<a href="#">Establishing and Providing Effective Referrals for Clients: A Toolkit for Family Planning Providers</a>

## Recognition and Prevention Continued

### HIGH IMPACT PRACTICE

- ★ Screen for structural and social drivers of health that might impact clinical recommendations or treatment plans. Link clients to resources that align with their health literacy, cultural needs, and language proficiency.

### RESOURCE

[Addressing Social Determinants of Health in Family Planning Care Meeting Package](#)

[The PRAPARE Screening Tool](#)

## Response

### HIGH IMPACT PRACTICE

Offer reproductive life planning discussions and resources, including access to a full range of contraceptive options for which the client is medically eligible.

### RESOURCE

[Determining Your Client's Need for Services and Discussing Reproductive Goals eLearning](#)

[Client-Centered Reproductive Goals and Counseling Flow Chart](#)

[Client-Centered Contraceptive Counseling Process Job Aid](#)

## Reporting and Systems Learning

### HIGH IMPACT PRACTICE

Monitor outcomes and process data related to SUD, and disaggregate data by race and ethnicity.

### RESOURCE

[High Impact Practice Set \(HIPS\) for Outpatient Settings: Caring for People with Substance Use Disorder Measurement Tool](#)

Convene partners and community stakeholders—including those with lived experience—to identify opportunities and share strategies for reducing systems-level barriers to care and improving outcomes.

[Identifying and Analyzing Stakeholders and Their Interests Guide](#)

[Successful Engagement with People Who Have Lived Experience](#)

## Respectful, Equitable, and Supportive Care

### HIGH IMPACT PRACTICE

Provide client-centered, trauma-informed communication and counseling to support the client in understanding recommendations and options.

### RESOURCE

[OARS Model—Essential Communication Skills Job Aid](#)

[Words Matter - Terms to Use and Avoid When Talking About Addiction](#)

These practices were adapted from [Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health \(AIM\) Patient Safety Bundles](#) by the RHNTC in collaboration with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG). [Care for Pregnant and Postpartum People With Substance Use Disorder. \(2022\).](#)

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