



The Coalition of Medication-Assisted Treatment Providers and Advocates of New York State

Media Contacts:

Allegra Schorr; President, COMPA
917-647-2291
aschorr@compa-ny.org

Bill Gordon; PR/Media Relations
646-924-6146
billgordon37@hotmail.com

MEDIA ALERT -- New York providers and policymakers examine how new flexibilities for methadone and buprenorphine have impacted patient care for OUD and prepare for changes to Medicaid

Speaker Highlights -- Open to News Media:

Chinazo Cunningham, MD - NYS OASAS Commissioner; Mark Parrino, MA - President American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence; Allegra Schorr, President, COMPA

When: Tuesday, October 27, 2026, 8:00 am to 3:30 PM EDT

Where: University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, 415 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, NY, 14642

What: COMPA Symposium: [Evaluating the Effects of New Regulations and Policy Shifts for Addiction Treatment](#)
Host = [COMPA](#) (Coalition of Medication-Assisted Treatment Providers and Advocates); www.compa-ny.org

Why: Learn how new flexibilities for methadone and buprenorphine have impacted patient care for opioid use disorder (OUD). It has now been two years since new final regulations from SAMHSA and the DEA regarding buprenorphine and methadone provided greater flexibilities for the treatment of OUD, the first set of comprehensive regulatory updates in more than two decades. At the same time, new federal policies have become final that make major changes to Medicaid eligibility, recertification and work requirements. The purpose of the COMPA symposium is to assess the two-year impact of new final regulations on patient care, and to educate attendees on how to adapt to shifts in Medicaid patient eligibility as we work to continue meeting the needs of a vulnerable patient population.

Event Summary: The symposium will promote timely collaboration among stakeholders by fostering communication and encouraging meaningful dialogue. Join treatment providers and policymakers to discuss:

- What are the greatest benefits of the new flexibilities surrounding methadone and buprenorphine?
- What are the key challenges for implementing and maintaining the new treatment flexibilities?
- How do opioid treatment programs (OTPs) balance new flexibilities with patient and community safety?
- How can NYS OTPs preserve patient access to care amid federal changes to Medicaid?

Providers and policymakers will investigate the real-life benefits and challenges surrounding longer take-home medications, the removal of requirements for counseling as part of addiction treatment, and less burdensome admission requirements to access care. They will also explore how to keep patients in lifesaving medication-assisted treatment (MAT) and avoid interruption in OUD services as new Medicaid policies are implemented.

Press registration available for in-person and virtual attendance. Call in advance to secure onsite interviews; same-day requests honored as possible. Pre-registration is required; inquire for details. Note: parking arrangements are available once you register and can also be emailed to you.

###