



## Continuity of offender treatment for substance use disorders from institution to community /

Field, Gary

U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, [1998]

Practice Guideline

Technical Report

Monografía

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS.** It is clearly in the public interest for offenders with substance use disorders to receive appropriate treatment both in prison or jail and in the community after release. Numerous studies show that those who remain dependent on substances are much more likely to return to criminal activity. Research also indicates that treatment gains may be lost if treatment is not continued after the offender is released from prison or jail. In part, this is because release presents offenders with a difficult transition from the structured environment of the prison or jail. Many prisoners after release have no place to live, no job, and no family or social supports. They often lack the knowledge and skills to access available resources for adjustment to life on the outside, all factors that significantly increase the risk of relapse and recidivism. This TIP presents guidelines for ensuring continuity of care as offenders with substance use disorders move from incarceration to the community. The guidelines are for treatment providers in prisons, jails, community corrections, and other institutions, as well as community providers. The following recommendations are based on a combination of research and the clinical experience of the Consensus Panel that developed this TIP. Recommendations based on research are denoted with a (1); those based on experience are followed by a (2). Citations supporting the former appear in Chapters 1 through 6. References to specific programs appear throughout those chapters as well; Appendix B provides contact information for many of those model programs

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