

Healthcare Organizations Leading SUD Care

2024 OFFICE HOURS

Honor Roll Press Release



Cal Hospital Compare Announces 2024 Honor Roll Hospitals

[Blog, Featured](#)

Sacramento, CA – California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly, along with Cal Hospital Compare, recognized hospitals across California today for their high performance [caring for patients with opioid use disorder \(OUD\) and patient safety](#).

- 100 hospitals met performance standards in opioid care.
- 72 hospitals met performance standards in patient safety.
- 30 hospitals met performance standards for opioid stewardship, and patient safety.

“Improving access to high quality care in hospitals is an ongoing process,” said **CalHHS Secretary Dr. Ghaly**. “Through its annual Opioid Care and Patient Safety Honor Rolls, Cal Hospital Compare helps us to celebrate hospitals doing excellent work and show where improvement is needed. Given the amount of changes hospitals have endured over the last few years recovering from the COVID pandemic, from re-building their workforce to navigating financial uncertainty, it’s even more important to celebrate their progress. Especially, the thirty hospitals that achieved recognition on both the Opioid Care, and Patient Safety Honor Rolls.”

Launching into SUD

2025 PROGRAM

Baby Steps



2025 = Transition Year

Key Changes

Hardwire strategies to address OUD

- Drive accountability
- Enhanced roadmaps for cross cutting best practices

Weave in AUD strategies

- With a focus on identification and treatment

Introduce SUD strategies

- Extra credit opportunities for those with clear processes for addressing multiple substances

4 Domains of Care

Safe & effective
opioid use

Identification &
treatment of
OUD/AUD

Harm reduction
strategies

Cross cutting
organizational best
practices for SUD
Care

SUD Care Hospital Self-Assessment

Measure	Level 1 <i>Basic Mgmt.</i> (1 pt)	Level 2 <i>Hospital Wide Standards</i> (2 pts)	Level 3 <i>Innovation</i> (3 pts)	Level 4 <i>Practice Improvement</i> (4 pts)	Level 5 <i>Integration</i> (5 pts)
<p>Safe & Effective Opioid Use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate opioid discharge prescribing guidelines • Alternatives to opioids for pain management 	<p>Harm Reduction Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital practices harm reduction informed care 				
<p>Identification & Treatment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medication for Addiction Treatment (MAT) • Timely follow up care 	<p>Cross-cutting Opioid Management Best Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational infrastructure • Address stigma with physicians & staff • Patient & family engagement 				
<p><i>Extra credit for “hon-rolling” a friend</i></p>					

Hardwire OUD – Drive Accountability

Some examples

- At least one active physician or clinical champion
- At least 1 FTE Navigator or equivalent
- Offer safer using supplies
- Plan of Safe Care in place for pregnant patients with SUD
- Provides both free naloxone and fentanyl test strips via NDP program
- Track successful follow ups
- Your hospital is collecting and reporting on the safe use of opioids eCQM measure with process improvement strategy in place
- Measurable improvement from baseline for each strategy

Enhanced roadmaps

Organizational Infrastructure

- Maximize billing for navigation services
- Explore Community Health Worker position

Address stigma with physicians and staff

- Quantity and report out # of SUD patients
- Link to readmissions reduction efforts and other strategic goals
- Tie in community benefits program
- Communicate the WIIFM to providers and staff

PFE

- Embrace engagement at all levels, all the time
- Collect and share success stories
- Analyze SDOH factors
- Address cultural differences

AUD Identification and Treatment

GUIDE

Acute Care Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorder



QUICK REFERENCE

Steps to reduce emergency department visits and help your patient by combining withdrawal treatment with craving reduction:

1. Treat Acute Withdrawal

Use your preferred strategy/hospital standard practice with benzodiazepine and/or phenobarbital to treat acute withdrawal.

2. At Discharge

- a. Prescribe Medication for protracted withdrawal.
Gabapentin 600mg-900 TID, #42
 - Avoid/use with caution in renal disease.
 - If history of severe withdrawal may need additional treatment including with benzodiazepine

NAVIGATOR TOOL

Navigating Patients with Alcohol Use Disorder



BACKGROUND

Many people who use opioids also engage in binge drinking.¹ As emergency departments (EDs) gain experience treating patients with opioid use disorder (OUD) with low-barrier buprenorphine and patient navigation, some EDs are extending their programs to treat alcohol use disorder (AUD). This is a high-priority population because, even as yearly drug overdose deaths have now surpassed 100,000,² an estimated 140,000 people die annually from excessive alcohol use.³

To help navigators serve patients with AUD, we offer the following tips from navigators that have begun to work with this population.

BUILD ON YOUR EXISTING SKILLS

Identifying Substance Use Disorders

Navigators are practiced in collaborating with ED clinicians and using Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) to identify OUD. These same skills can be used to identify AUD. More information on SBIRT is available in the [CA Bridge Navigation Toolkit](#). Just as you reach out to patients who come in for abscesses or cellulitis to identify opioid use, you can reach out to patients seen for liver disease, trauma, motor vehicle accidents, or jail clearance to identify AUD.

Utilizing screening tools such as the [Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test \(AUDIT\)](#) or [Drug Abuse Screening](#)

2025 SUD Care Honor Roll



Superior Performance

- \geq Hospital scores at least **34 points**

Sustained Improvement

- Superior performance two years in a row

Excellent progress

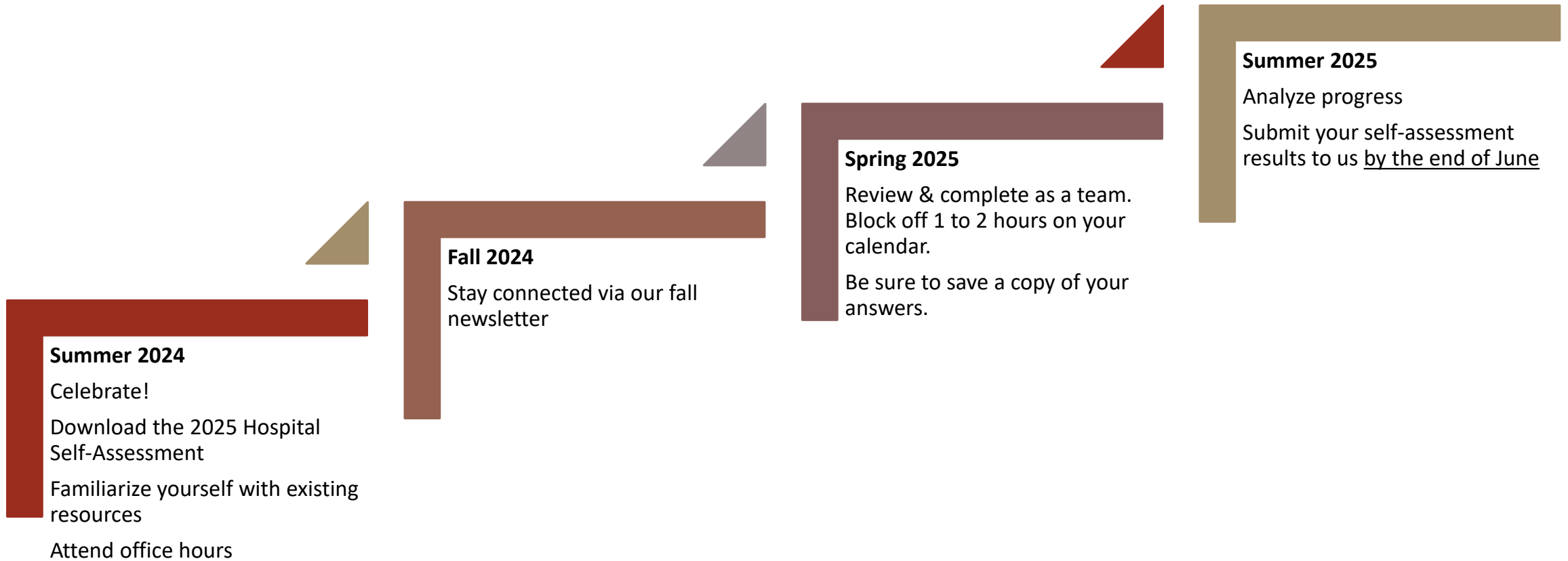
- Hospital scores **between 26 and 33 points**

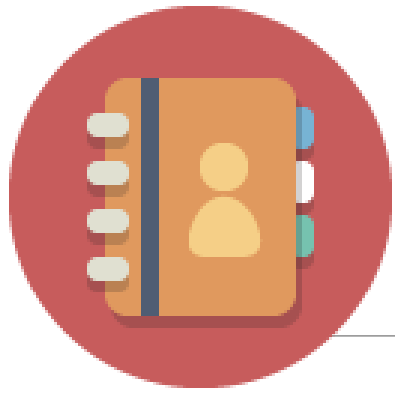
Most Improved

- \geq **5-point** difference between 2024 and 2025

Multiple
Extra Credit
opportunities

2025 Program





Questions?

Alex Stack

Director, Projects & Strategic
Initiatives

Cal Hospital Compare

astack@cynosurehealth.org