

Identifying Barriers to Opioid Pharmacotherapy Delivery in Mental Health Services in Victoria

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Disclosure of Interest: This survey activity was undertaken as part of the Hamilton Centre, the Statewide Service for Addiction and Mental Health, funded by the Victorian State Department of Health. There was no external grant funding. The authors of this research have no conflicts to declare.

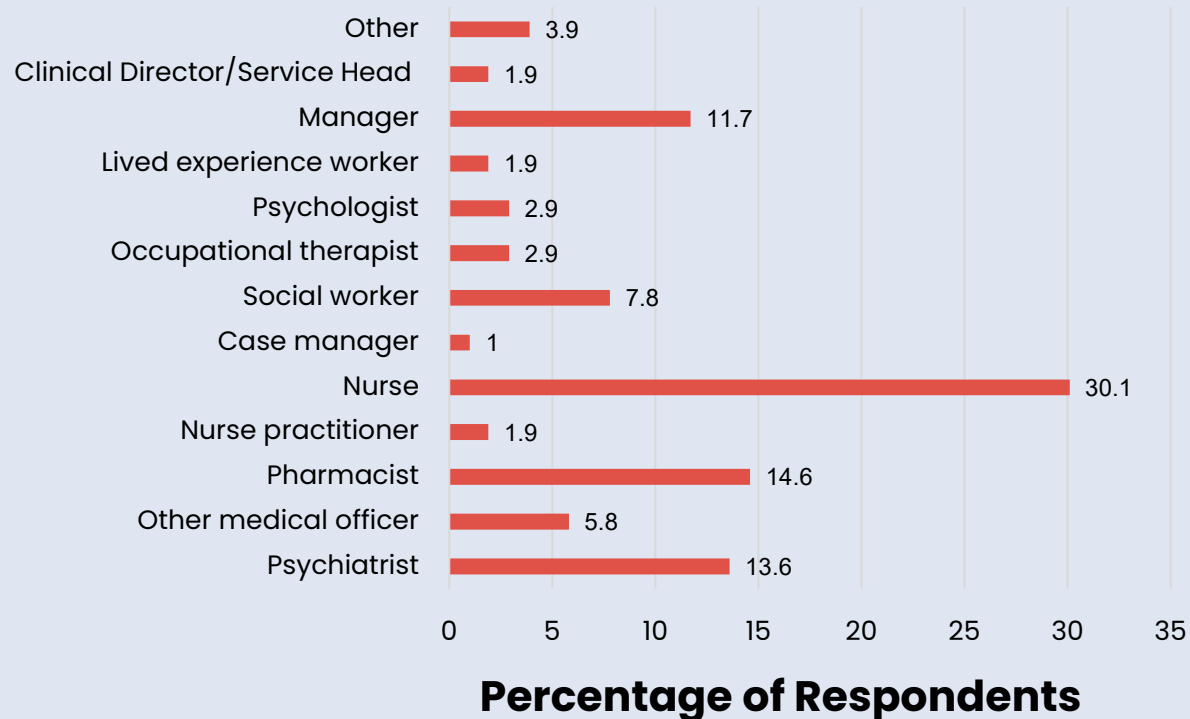
Introduction and Methods

- People experiencing co-occurring mental illness and substance use experience many barriers accessing **opioid agonist treatment (OAT)**.
- Online anonymous survey to document current workforce practices for OAT provision in **Victorian Area Mental Health and Wellbeing Services (AMHWBS)**.
- Ethics approval granted by Eastern Health Human Research Ethics Committee.

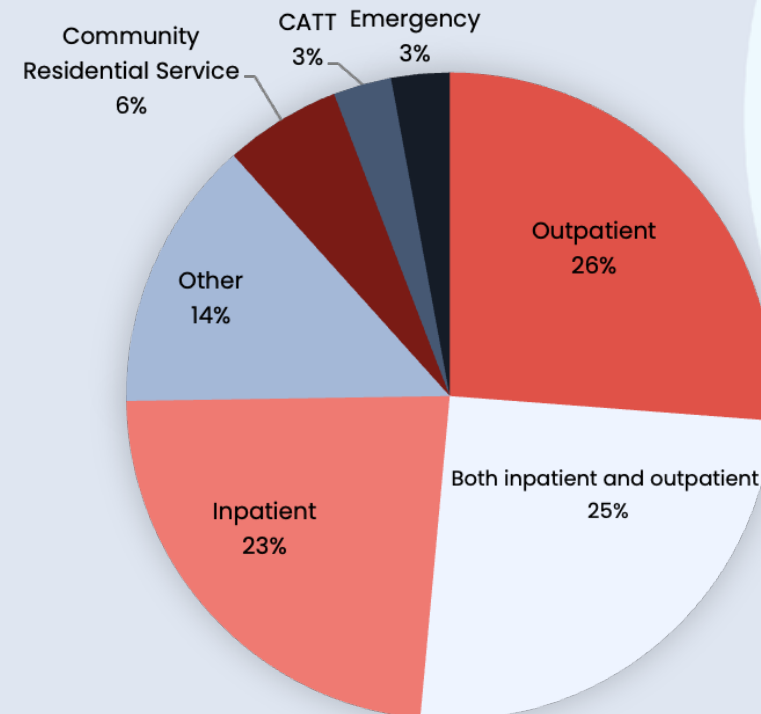
Key Findings

- **132** responses received ➡ **103** from eligible services and sufficiently complete
- **76.7%** Metropolitan AMHWBS

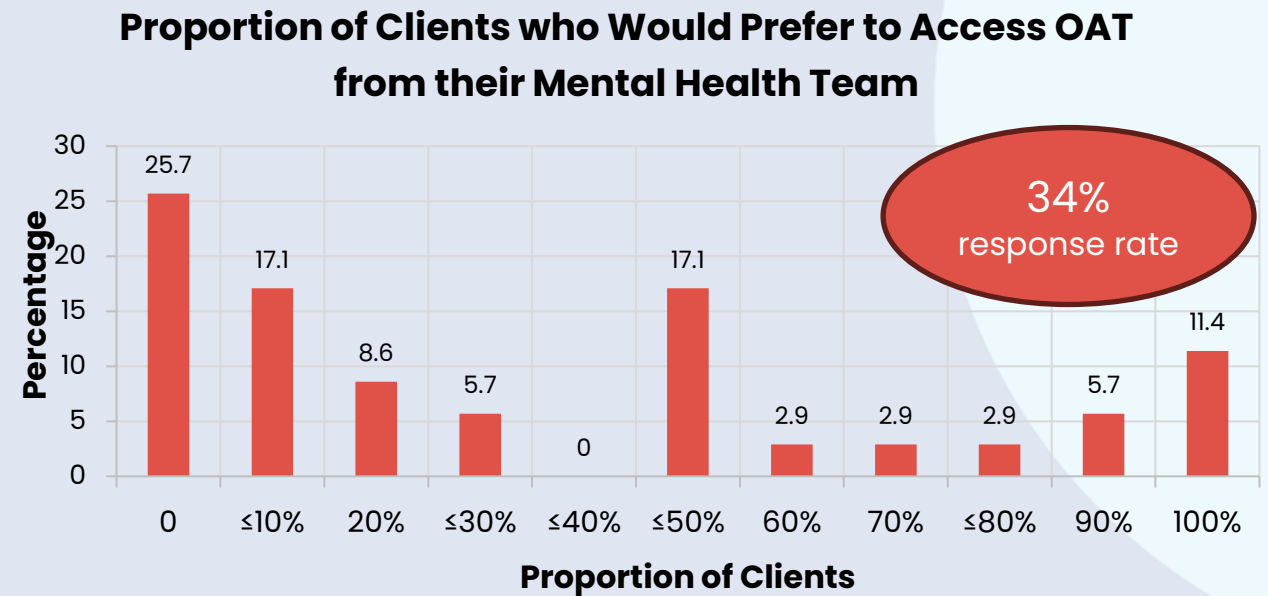
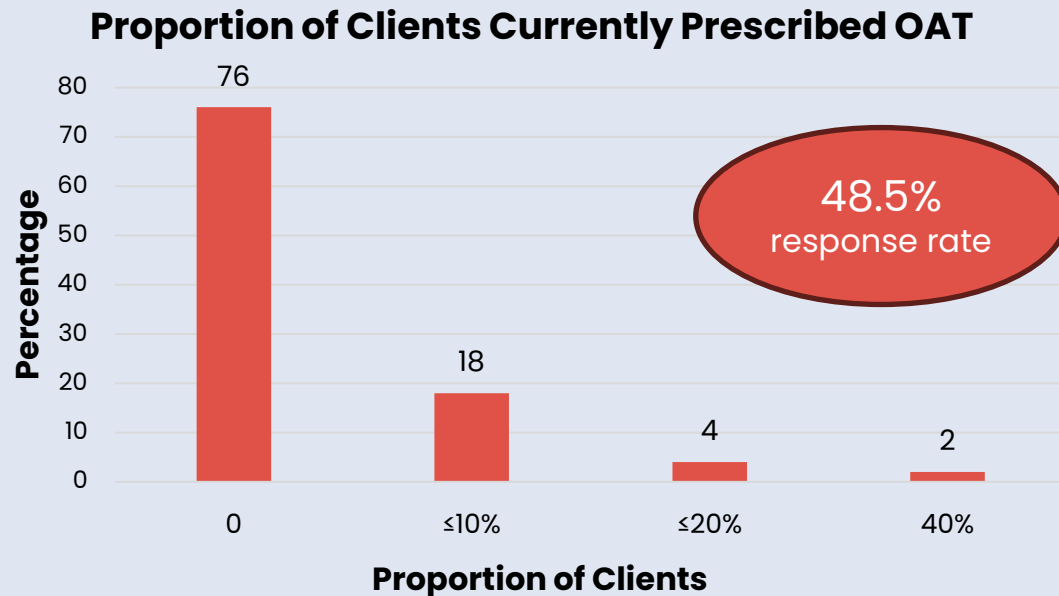
Role



Service Type



- 68% >5 years experience working in mental health
- 61.8% previous OAT experience
- 72.3% reported access to prescribers in their service
 - 54.5% had capacity to meet OAT prescribing needs



Barriers

- **47%** identified barriers to providing OAT in the inpatient setting
- **40%** identified barriers to providing OAT in the community setting

Barriers to OAT in the inpatient setting	Barriers to OAT in the community setting
<i>Specialist access</i>	<i>Prescriber access</i> /service not offered
<i>Training, knowledge and experience</i>	Referral pathways/lack of AOD support
Confirming doses with community providers	<i>Training, knowledge, experience</i>
Pharmacy access/delays	Medication storage
Stigma	Pharmacy copayment



Discussions and Conclusions

- Initial snapshot of OAT practice in Victorian AMHWBS
- Possible lack of detailed knowledge
- Opportunity for further research
- Identified need for further training and resources

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