

**Introduction to the TRI
Center on Policy
Research & Analysis**

Services:

Performance Contracting:
Design, Implementation
& Evaluation

Treatment of Offenders
with Substance-Use
Disorders

Financing & Purchasing
Coordinated,
Efficient Care

Integration of Substance
Use in Medical Care

State Readiness for
Implementation of
Medication-Assisted
Treatment (MAT)

At the national level, the ever-growing disparity between private insurance and public funding for addiction treatment is having a major impact on the availability and quality of addiction treatment. The disparity is not being addressed, however. As the public sector continues to assume more financial responsibility for purchasing, performance and outcomes of addiction treatment, state governments are looking for evidence-based financing and contracting policies and strategies.

Research literature shows that patients do best when levels of care and recovery support services are linked. Recent scientific advances and innovative treatment demonstrations have led to an expansion of the continuum of care. For example, screening and brief interventions in healthcare settings have become an important part of the continuum, as have various forms of continuing care following rehabilitation. In addition, new medications and behavioral therapies are increasing the capacity and impact of treatment.

Yet, the infrastructure in so many states leaves them unable to deliver the treatment continuum effectively and efficiently, even though there are evidence-based policies that can improve purchasing, organization, management, and results of addiction treatments in ways that benefit the public, providers and, of course, patients. National and state policy directly affects the capacity of the treatment infrastructure to respond to these scientific advances. The current literature suggests the gap is widening between what we know and what we can deliver.

The Center for Policy Research and Analysis at the Treatment Research Institute (TRI) helps states and local governments develop and evaluate evidence-based policies that foster delivery of state-of-the-science care – within existing budgets. Our goal is to help policy makers translate research into policy solutions that get quality results - and work with states and other purchasers to use their dollars more effectively and efficiently by doing business differently.