



DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES

ADMINISTERING MEDICAID AND THE STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM IN VIRGINIA

Highlights from the First Nine Months of ARTS

The Department of Medical Assistance Services contracted with Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) to conduct an evaluation of the Addiction and Recovery Treatment Services (ARTS) program. Below are the major findings from a report published by the VCU evaluation team about changes in access to and utilization of addiction treatment services during the first nine months of ARTS.

More Medicaid members with substance use disorders are receiving treatment

- The percent of Medicaid members with a substance use disorder who received any treatment increased from 24 percent before ARTS to 38 percent during the first nine months of ARTS.

	Before ARTS April-December 2016	After ARTS April- December 2017	Percent Change
Total number of members with a substance use disorder (SUD)	42,011	43,093	3%
Members with SUD receiving any SUD treatment	10,102	16,570	64%
Percent receiving SUD treatment	24%	38%	60%

More Medicaid members with opioid use disorders are receiving treatment

- The percent of Medicaid members with an opioid use disorder who received any treatment increased from 48 percent before ARTS to 62 percent during the first nine months of ARTS.

	Before ARTS April-December 2016	After ARTS April- December 2017	Percent Change
Total number of members with an opioid use disorder (OUD)	14,696	17,093	16%
Members with OUD receiving any OUD treatment	6,989	10,522	51%
Percent receiving OUD treatment	48%	62%	29%

Fewer emergency department visits related to opioid use disorders

- The number of emergency department visits related to opioid use disorders decreased by 31 percent during the first nine months of ARTS.

This compares with a 15 percent decrease in emergency department visits for all Medicaid members.



	Before ARTS April-December 2016	After ARTS April-December 2017	Percent Change
ED visits related to opioid use disorders	4,484	3,101	-31%
Total ED visits for all Medicaid members	706,325	601,586	-15%

Fewer prescriptions for opioid pain medications

- The number of prescriptions for opioid pain medications among Medicaid members decreased by 29 percent during the first 9 months of ARTS.

	Before ARTS April-December 2016	After ARTS April-December 2017	Percent Change
Total number of prescriptions for opioid pain medications	420,883	299,598	-29%
Number of prescriptions for opioid pain medications per 10,000 members	3,045	2,152	-29%

- The number of prescriptions for opioid pain medications per 10,000 Medicaid members varies widely across Virginia regions.

