

Clinical Guidelines and Related Provider Requirements: Treatment of Tobacco Use Disorder (TUD)

Community Behavioral Health (CBH) has adopted Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) to outline best practices for treating specific disorders or certain populations. CBH will use these guidelines to assess the quality of care provided to CBH members. As such, providers are advised to review and, where appropriate, implement these best practices in their care. CPGs apply to all clinical settings where care is delivered to members. CPGs should be used in conjunction with any level-of-care-specific performance standards, as well as all other required CBH, state, and federal regulations and standards.

CBH has updated the existing guidelines for the treatment of tobacco use disorder (TUD). The most recent version of all CPGs can be found on the [CBH Clinical Practice Guidelines webpage](#).

To ensure alignment and best practices, CBH recommends that providers review the CPGs and make any necessary updates or revisions to provider policies and procedures.

Significant changes to the Treatment of TUD CPG include:

- ➔ Updated references throughout
- ➔ Updated and restructured monitoring metrics and inclusion of updated state metrics for tobacco recovery
 - » Metrics now cover screening, diagnosis, counseling, and pharmacotherapy
- ➔ Nicotine pouches emphasized as a tobacco product, as they are the 2nd most used tobacco product among adolescents and are rising among adults.
- ➔ Distinguished pharmacotherapy by age, as NRT is not FDA-approved for populations under 18
- ➔ Updated information regarding vaping

Adherence to the CPGs will be assessed through CBH monitoring and oversight, including protocols from the Quality, Clinical, and Compliance Departments. To assess the quality of care and align with state and regulatory requirements, CBH will also utilize several specific metrics for the CPG, which are detailed in the table below.

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Clinical Guidelines	Quality Metrics
Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Treatment of Adults with Tobacco Use Disorder	1. Screening: Percentage of CBH members screened for tobacco use in the last 12 months. » Numerator: CBH members who were screened for tobacco use at least once within the last 12 months » Denominator: All unduplicated CBH members
	2. Diagnosis: Percentage of CBH members who have a TUD Diagnosis » Numerator: Members with a TUD diagnosis » Denominator: All unduplicated CBH Members
	3. Counseling: Percentage of CBH tobacco users who were provided TUD counseling. » Numerator: CBH members who screened positive for tobacco use and were provided tobacco counseling at their last visit. » Denominator: All CBH members who have a TUD diagnosis in the past 12 months.
	4. Pharmacotherapy: Percentage of CBH tobacco users that are 18 years or older who were provided pharmacotherapy (NRT or medication). » Numerator: Adult CBH members who screened positive for TUD and were treated via pharmacotherapy at their last visit. » Denominator: All adult CBH members who have a TUD diagnosis the past 12 months.

These requirements take effect December 11, 2025. Please direct questions regarding *Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Treatment of TUD* to michelle.reece@phila.gov.