

## CARE MODEL

UMass Memorial Medical Center implemented a telemedicine initiative to increase patient engagement in, and access to, evidence-based treatment for substance use disorders (SUD). The initiative integrates SUD treatment such as medication-assisted treatment (MAT) into the hospital's inpatient and emergency departments through teleconferencing with an addiction social worker or psychiatrist, facilitated by a peer recovery coach at the patient's bedside. The initiative ensures timely consultation and initiation into evidence-based MAT for patients during even a brief admission to the hospital.

The initiative's staffing model and community partnerships allow for care to be catered to the specific needs of the patient and for the care team to follow patients once they leave the hospital. With teleconferencing, addiction specialists can initiate care regardless of patient location in the hospital, while peer recovery coaches bridge the gap between the medical and social needs patients face as they begin treatment and are discharged from the hospital.

## IMPACT

**\$496.2K**

HPC AWARD

**\$575K**

TOTAL PROJECT COST

TARGET POPULATION

**Individuals with High Clinical Risk and High Hospital Utilization with a Substance Use Disorder**

PRIMARY & SECONDARY AIMS:



**↑ 400%**

engagement in evidence-based treatment for SUD

**↓ 30%**

30-day readmission rate

**↓ 30%**

ED utilization

**↑ 30%**

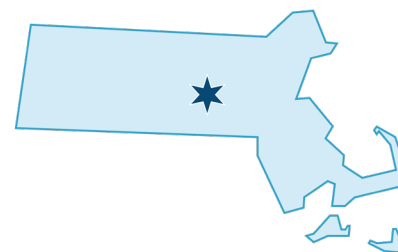
post-discharge enrollment with medical services

**↑ 20%**

self-reported patient satisfaction with consultation services

## PARTNERS

- UMass Medical School Systems and Psychosocial Advances and Research
- UMass Memorial Healthcare Office of Clinical Integration
- Spectrum Health Services
- Community HealthLink
- Habit OPCO
- AdCare



## HCII PATHWAY SUMMARY

In 2016, the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission (HPC) launched its \$1.8 million Telemedicine Pilots pathway of the Health Care Innovation Investment (HCII) Program. The Telemedicine Pilots aim to demonstrate the potential of telemedicine to address critical behavioral health care access challenges in high-need and underserved target populations. The four 12-month pilots provide expanded access to behavioral health care for children and adolescents, individuals with Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and older adults aging in place.

## HPC BACKGROUND

The Massachusetts Health Policy Commission (HPC), established in 2012, is an independent state agency charged with monitoring health care spending growth in Massachusetts and providing data-driven policy recommendations regarding health care delivery and payment system reform. The HPC's mission is to advance a more transparent, accountable, and innovative health care system through independent policy leadership and investment programs. Visit us at [Mass.gov/HPC](http://Mass.gov/HPC). Tweet us @Mass\_HPC.