Ambulatory Withdrawal Management Program

Visiting Nurse Association of Ohio
Visiting Association of Ohio

• Providing home healthcare in Cleveland since 1902
• The Psychiatric Bridge Program 2005 - 2017
Mission

To keep addicts alive by offering comfort medication and counseling to people who have recently completed detox and are going into residential treatment.
Community Partners

• Receive referrals from
  o Rosary Hall at St. Vincent
  o Stella Maris
  o Harbor Lights

• Provide services at
  o Stella Maris Dorm
    ▪ Recently Walton House
  o Orca (Signature Health)
  o Hitchcock Center
  o Y-Haven
  o Hattie’s House (CTC)

• Parkway Pharmacy
**Staffing**

- Part-time psychiatrist for consultation
- RN
- LISW
Funding

• Initially funded by the ADAMHS Board
• Federal money through the CURES Act
The Process

- The RN assesses the client and using the CINA Scale determines the acuity of withdrawal symptoms
- Consults with the psychiatrist
- Contacts Parkway pharmacy for same day delivery
The Formulary

- Gabapentin
- Topamax
- Doxepin
- Vistaril
- Clonidine
- Naltrexone (oral)
The Process

• The LISW provides a psycho-social evaluation to determine
  o Trauma history
  o Need for counseling
  o Need for linkage with other community social service agencies
The Results

• Total number of clients 6/1/17 – 5/31/18

• Discharged with goals met:
The Barriers

• Difficulty with change
• Resistance to medication
• Legal system/incarceration
• Multitude of family issues
  o Child care
  o Child health
• Health Issues
Opportunities