

# Opioid-Related News and the Courts

## Weekly Review

January 20, 2023



### National

#### [Facilitators and barriers to collaboration between drug courts and community-based medication for opioid use disorder providers](#)

Journal of Substance Use and Addiction Treatment

##### Study Results

Facilitator and barrier themes centered around the needs and resources of drug court participants, external policies such [as] MOUD [medications for opioid use disorder] access in jails, networking with external agencies, and beliefs about MOUD providers. Drug court staff preferred working with agencies that offered MOUD alongside comprehensive services. Drug courts benefited when jails offered MOUD in-house and facilitated community referrals. Existing relationships with providers and responsive communication eased referrals and served to educate the courts about MOUD. Barriers included logistical limitations (limited hours, few methadone providers) and inadequate communication patterns between providers and drug court staff. A lack of confidence in providers' prescribing practices and concerns around perceived overmedication of participants impacted referrals, interagency collaboration, and further burdened the participants.

### Indiana

#### [Valpo could explore using opioid settlement money to bring new 'care coordinator' to community](#)

NPR-Lakeshore Public Radio

Valparaiso's \$1.2 million settlement isn't enough to build or staff a new treatment center, according to emergency and addiction medicine specialist Dr. David Cummins. But it could be used to hire a new coordinator to work with the various agencies.

"That might be turning someone onto care. That might be connecting them to services that are already there that they already have connection with, helping them find a placement at a detox center — some kind of, for lack of a better word, care coordinator or social worker," Cummins explained.

Others hoped the new position could also help with prevention efforts and obtaining grant funding.