Recovery While Incarcerated (RWI) FAQ

The Health Care Service Directive 4.01A was updated, published, and effective 11/1/2021. This policy provides the guidance of Addiction Recovery Services (ARS) treatment through RWI for IDOC.

* What is changing about the treatment being offered?
  + Addiction Recovery treatment is changing from five (5) Progressions where every patient started and completed the same treatment
  + Treatment now is based on the clinical need of the patient and the patient starts a Level of Care (LOC) based on what their need is
* Why are you changing treatment?
  + To focus time providing treatment to patients rather than unnecessary documentation
  + To provide treatment that is medically and clinically indicated for each individual patient and to personalize treatment as much as possible
  + To provide consistency and oversite to the treatment offered within IDOC facilities
* What is the structure of the new treatment?
  + Patients will begin treatment at one of the recommended Levels of Care below. A patient is considered complete with the Active portion of treatment when they successfully complete the Outpatient Level of Care. Expected time in each Level of Care is based on the patient’s individual need and may be adjusted accordingly.
  + There are three (3) Levels of Care (LOC) in RWI
    - 1. Residential Level of Care (RES): the most intense Level of Care reserved for the 10-15% of patients who need the most intense level of services including withdrawal and stabilization. This Level of Care will require a patient to live in a Recovery Oriented Community (ROC) and participate in treatment numerous hours each day. On average, patients can expect to be in RES Level of Care 30 days before progressing to the next Level of Care Intensive Outpatient.
    - 2. Intensive Outpatient (IOP): The next level of services offered in the continuum where patients are provided treatment numerous hours each week but are encouraged to participate in other programs concurrently and/or maintain employment to work on their recovery in a more natural setting. On average, patients can expect to be in IOP Level of Care 90 days before progressing to the next Level Of Care Outpatient services.
    - 3. Outpatient Level of Care (OP): This Level of Care is provided on an outpatient basis for those working on maintaining their recovery and preparing a Relapse Prevention Plan. The time in treatment for this Level of Care can range from a couple of hours per week to a couple hours per month. Patients are encouraged to participate in other programs concurrently and/or maintain employment in order to mimic life upon release as much as possible. On average, patients can expect to be in OP Level of Care 90 days before completing the program.
  + After Care (AC) is optional for a patient who completed the Active portion and wants to stay engaged in treatment resources and connected with peers in recovery.
* How is Level of Care treatment determined?
  + The LOC is based on the Comprehensive Substance Use Assessment (CSUA) and the clinical recommendation is made by ARS staff. If a patient refuses services at that LOC, Foundations independent study can be discussed with ARS staff as an alternative.