

# TRANSFORMING ADDICTION TREATMENT



## THE PROBLEM

Substance use disorder is a high-risk chronic illness, but for too many patients treatment is unaffordable, unavailable, or ineffective.

## THE SOLUTION

CA Bridge is disrupting addiction treatment by approaching substance use disorder as a condition that can, and should, be treated by medical professionals like any other life-threatening medical condition.

Our goal is to transform the way people who use drugs get help by ensuring that every hospital in California provides 24/7 access to evidence-based treatment.

## OUR MODEL



*Low-Barrier Treatment*



*Connection to Care and  
Community*



*Culture of Harm Reduction*

Evidence-Based Treatment Starts Here  
24 Hours – 7 Days a Week – 365 Days a Year

[www.cabridge.org](http://www.cabridge.org)

# HELP SAVE LIVES

## A NEW APPROACH TO CARE

Currently, most medical providers do not treat addiction. People who come to emergency rooms in withdrawal often face discrimination and receive minor symptom relief but no treatment for their underlying addiction.

CA Bridge is working to fix this broken system by engaging emergency departments and hospitals to deliver medication for addiction treatment (MAT) 24/7. We partner with patients and actively connect them to ongoing care. We focus on establishing a culture in which people who use drugs are treated with respect and receive the same high-quality care as all other patients. We work to reduce the harms associated with drugs by advancing more just and equitable approaches to substance use. We expect our model to be the standard of care in California by 2023.

## DELIVERING RESULTS

The CA Bridge model dramatically lowers barriers to treatment by eliminating medically unnecessary barriers and quickly providing patients with what they are seeking—immediate relief from withdrawal. We've designed a process that meets patients where they are and works in the real world of busy hospitals. Once patients are stabilized, they are better equipped to engage in conversation about long-term treatment, which they do with a substance use navigator or a peer from their community, often with lived experience. Based on a harm reduction perspective, we emphasize rapid, patient-centered care and human connections.

## MORE ABOUT MAT

Medication for Addiction Treatment, or MAT, uses FDA-approved medications to treat substance use disorder. Common MAT include buprenorphine, methadone, and naltrexone.

Research shows MAT is highly effective because it is associated with:

- *Reduced or no withdrawal symptoms (the feeling of extreme sickness)*
- *Reduced or no cravings*
- *Reduced opioid-related overdose*
- *Reduced likelihood of using again*

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