The Opioid Epidemic and CONTINUUM®

CONTINUUM helps clinicians in the diagnosis of patients with opioid use disorder, determining the severity of and need for withdrawal management and evaluating all dimensions of risk and needs. In a random control study, opioid patients who were mis-matched according to CONTINUUM were 3 times more likely to fail to engage in treatment than patients matched with CONTINUUM.

CONTINUUM fully implements the unbundling principle in opioid use disorder treatment according to the ASAM Criteria. This includes offering patients evidence-based treatment, such as medication in addiction treatment (MAT). The unbundling means that MAT should always be offered within all levels of care. CONTINUUM also considers the needs of patients who have been incarcerated or in residential treatment following detoxification. Therefore, CONTINUUM is suitable for a wide variety of opioid patient populations.

With the help of CONTINUUM, clinicians can easily:

- Determine if the patient has used any opioid agents – prescribed or illicit
- Assess opioid use recency, frequency, duration and prior treatment
- Yield DSM-5 opioid use disorder (OUD) diagnosis, symptom count and severity
- Assess quantitative withdrawal symptom scores (CINA)
- Generate Addiction Severity Index (ASI) drug severity composite scores
- Use decision logic that generates detailed recommendations for withdrawal management, opioid treatment services (eg, medication) and needed Level of Care
- Streamline re-assessment to detect continuing needs and change over time

In the acute setting, CO-Triage® is the standardized, ten-minute, provisional referral guide. Suitable for face-to-face or telephone interviewing, CO-Triage is ideal for Central Intakes, urgent care centers, justice systems, and referral centers.

Together, CO-Triage and CONTINUUM are the state of the art system for initiating care for the opioid use disorder patient in the midst of today’s opioid epidemic.