



NORTH SOUND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ORGANIZATION

Provider Bulletin April 2023

WEBSITE LINKS:

Numbered Memorandum

<https://www.nsbhaso.org/memorandums>

Data Dictionary

<https://www.nsbhaso.org/data/dict>

Forms & Reports

<https://www.nsbhaso.org/form-reports>

Policies

<http://www.nsbhaso.org/policies>

Brochures

www.nsbhaso.org/brochures

HCA Customer Service

<https://www.hca.wa.gov/health-care-services-supports/apple-health-medicaid-coverage/apple-health-managed-care>

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMSA) XYLAZINE ALERT

Please see the attached SAMHSA bulletin regarding the risks of xylazine which is a non-opioid veterinary anesthetic agent increasingly being found in combination with opioids such as fentanyl. Reports from SUD providers across the State indicate that this agent is being seen with an increasing frequency among individuals presenting for services.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT

North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (North Sound BH-ASO) is pleased to announce an opportunity to implement an Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program in the North Sound region. The Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program will provide court mandated Less Restrictive Alternative treatment to high-needs individuals with necessary mental health and substance use treatment without necessitating hospitalization with an aim to better motivate an individual who struggles with voluntary treatment adherence to engage fully with their treatment plan.

The *Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Request for Proposal (RFP)* may be found here: [Requests for Proposals & Qualifications | North Sound BH-ASO \(nsbhaso.org\)](#)

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NORTH SOUND BH-ASO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOE VALENTINE IS RETIRING

If you haven't heard, Joe Valentine will be retiring on June 30, 2023. Joe has been the Executive Director of the North Sound BH-ASO for over 11 years. His leadership guided us through multiple changes in organizational responsibilities, resulting in severe fluctuations in funding and staffing. His leadership and dedication to our mission has provided our organization with a strong foundation and the capacity to carry on regardless of what challenges and opportunities come our way. Joe's advocacy has been instrumental in keeping behavioral health services in the forefront of conversations with local officials and state legislators, resulting in increased behavioral health funding in the communities we serve. His influence on our system of care will be long-lasting. It's with sincere gratitude we wish Joe the best in his next chapter!