OSTI - Guide to assessing treatment needs of patients who misuse opioids
(Reviewed/approved by Dan Mullin 1.29.2018)

Questions that can help assess patient’s use of opioids:
1) Have you ever taken prescription pain medication that was not yours?
2) Have you ever taken more prescription medication than was recommended? For example, taking 8 pills per day when 4 pills were prescribed.
3) Have you ever taken prescription pain medication to help with symptoms other than your pain? For example if you were sad or could not relax?
4) Have you ever taken so many pain pills that you needed to go to the emergency room or receive medication to revive you?
5) Have you ever used heroin?
6) Have you ever used opioids, not for pain, but to avoid getting sick with withdrawal symptoms? (You may need list examples of withdrawal symptoms)
7) Have you ever taken buprenorphine/suboxone that wasn’t prescribed to you?

Questions that can help assess readiness for treatment options?
1) Would you be interested in being evaluated for a buprenorphine treatment program?
2) Have you ever been in a treatment program for opioids, with medications such as methadone/buprenorphine/naltrexone?
3) Did the program help you reduce your use of opioids? And if so, would you be interested in such a program again?
4) Have you ever been in a hospital, or “detox”, or treatment program for opioids, and would you consider such a program again?

Flowchart:
- Does the patient have a history of misusing opioids?
  - Yes: Has the patient used opioids to avoid symptoms of opioid withdrawal?
    - Yes: Connect patient with counseling services for opioid misuse
    - No: Does the patient have a history of misusing opioids?
  - No: Educate patient about risks/benefits of opioids

- Has the patient previously been enrolled in a treatment program with methadone/buprenorphine/naltrexone?
  - Yes: During most recent enrollment in a treatment program did the patient reduce their use of illicit opioids?
    - Yes: Connect patient for an evaluation for a methadone/buprenorphine/naltrexone program
    - No: Connect patient with evaluation for inpatient/residential treatment
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- Has the patient ever overdosed on opioids?
  - Yes: Educate patient about risks/benefits of opioids
  - No: Has the patient ever overdosed on opioids?

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