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# Six Building Blocks

## A Team-Based Approach to Improving Opioid Management in Primary Care

The Six Building Blocks Program is a practice coach-led approach to guiding health organizations through making system based improvements to their approach to patients on long-term opioid therapy.



### **Leadership and consensus**

Demonstrate leadership support and build organization-wide consensus to prioritize more selective and cautious opioid prescribing.



### **Policies, patient agreements, and workflows**

Revise, align, and implement clinic policies, patient agreements, and workflows for health care team members to improve opioid prescribing and care of patients with chronic pain.



### **Tracking and monitoring patient care**

Implement proactive population management before, during, and between clinic visits of all patients on long-term opioid therapy.



### **Planned, patient-centered visits**

Prepare and plan for the clinic visits of all patients on long-term opioid therapy. Support patient-centered, empathic communication for care of patients on long-term opioid therapy.



### **Caring for complex patients**

Develop policies and resources to ensure that patients who develop opioid use disorder and/or who need mental/behavioral health resources are identified and provided with appropriate care, either in the care setting or by outside referral.



### **Measuring success**

Continuously monitor progress and improve with experience.

The Six Building Blocks team provides:

- An in-person Kickoff Event to orient your staff and clinicians to the Six Building Blocks
- Ongoing guidance by a Practice Facilitator to develop and implement action plans
- Monthly shared learning calls at which participating sites learn from each other
- Connection to clinical education resources
- Provision of resources, such as a model policy, model patient agreement, model workflows, patient education materials, strategies for tracking and monitoring, and a guide for having difficult conversations.

For more information, visit: [www.improvingopioidcare.org](http://www.improvingopioidcare.org)

