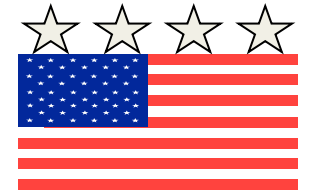


METHADONE TREATMENT SAVES TAX PAYER MONEY



- The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Drug Abuse Treatment Outcome Study found, that methadone treatment reduced participants' heroin use by 70%, their criminal activity by 57%, and increased their full-time employment by 24%.
- Methadone maintenance treatment (MMT) has been shown to:
 - Dramatically improve life functioning.
 - Markedly decrease heroin use; criminal behavior; drug use practices (such as needle sharing, that increase human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) risk); and HIV infection.
- Methadone treatment is also highly cost-effective. According to the New York Academy of Medicine, the lifetime Medicaid cost for each injecting drug user with AIDS is about \$109,000. In contrast, one year of methadone treatment costs about \$5,000 per patient.
- Methadone treatment is less expensive than incarceration , which costs from \$20,200 to \$45,000 per year.