(Insert letterhead, inside address, date, etc.)

Dear (insert name of leader in potential collaborating medical/psychiatric practice),

By way of introduction, I am the Director of (insert name and description of your treatment program). We are writing to ask you, as a DATA-2000 physician serving individuals in the vicinity of our program, to participate in an exciting project sponsored by the American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence (AATOD), with support from the SAMHSA-funded Providers’ Clinical Support System for Medication Assisted Treatment (PCSS-MAT). The primary objective of this project is to enhance patient care through structuring relationships between programs like ours, and DATA 2000 practices like yours.

The alarming rate of prescription opioid overdose deaths (reported by the CDC to be 100 every day in the U.S.), and reports of a resurgence of heroin use, makes effective treatment of opioid dependence a public health necessity. Maximizing and targeting the use of all available medications and treatment settings, in the context of a full continuum of treatment modalities and intensities, serves the best interest of individuals entering and currently in treatment. That said, we recognize that every treatment provider cannot always offer the optimal type, intensity, and location of care for every patient over the entire course of his or her treatment. But through collaboration between office- and program-based providers, the continuum of care can be expanded, outcomes enhanced, and satisfaction of both patients and providers can improve.

I hope I can interest you in beginning a conversation about how your practice, and our treatment program, can partner together to achieve these goals. It may be useful for you to know that services we can offer include any or all of the following: (customize this list for your program)

* Comprehensive addiction assessment
* Buprenorphine induction and stabilization
* Group and individual counseling
* Injection naltrexone induction and stabilization
* “On-call” expert consultation for your providers by our Medical Director
* Shared information on counseling adherence/response and toxicology results
* Directly observed buprenorphine dispensing for destabilized patients
* Conversion to methadone maintenance or injection naltrexone when indicated
* Interventions to enhance adherence to somatic and psychiatric treatment
* Case management to address social needs.

We are hoping to work together with your practice to expand and enhance the range of recovery-related services for patients seeking treatment for opioid dependence. I hope you will contacts me with any questions you may have and to discuss next steps. I am looking forward to our collaborating in this important treatment endeavor.

Sincerely,

(Closing signature)

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