Continuing Care Pathway
for Adult Patients with AUD

Patient has DSM-5 confirmed AUD
Is patient interested in medication?

NO

• Provide referrals for psychosocial treatment and community-based supports
• Follow-up and reassess

YES

Discuss treatment goals (i.e. abstinence, reduced drinking, or reduced craving)

Goal: Abstinence

First-line Options:
• Acamprosate
• Naltrexone

Alternate options (if first-line options are contraindicated or not preferred):
• Topiramate
• Gabapentin
• Disulfiram: Not recommended except in specific circumstances for highly motivated patients

Goal: Reduced drinking

First-line Options:
• Naltrexone

Provide information and referrals for psychosocial treatment, community-based supports, peer and family support groups, recovery support services.

A Note on Withdrawal Management
• Recommended as a first step for patients with goal of abstinence
• May not be required for patients with a goal of reduced drinking or craving, but can improve treatment outcomes
• All patients should be assessed for risk of severe withdrawal complications (PAWSS)