



Michigan  
*Office of the Auditor General*  
**REPORT SUMMARY**

*Performance Audit*  
*Substance Abuse Services*  
*Department of Corrections*

Report Number:  
 471-0360-08

Released:  
 September 2009

*Substance Abuse Services (SAS) is responsible for all Department of Corrections (DOC) substance abuse treatment programs and for obtaining drug testing resources. SAS contracts with independent contractors to provide outpatient and residential treatment program services to prisoners, parolees, and probationers.*

***Audit Objective:***

To assess the effectiveness of SAS's efforts to evaluate outcomes related to substance abuse services provided to prisoners and parolees.

***Audit Conclusion:***

We concluded that SAS's efforts to evaluate outcomes related to substance abuse services provided to prisoners and parolees were moderately effective. We noted one reportable condition (Finding 1).

***Reportable Condition:***

SAS had not performed a comprehensive assessment of outcomes for each of its substance abuse programs (Finding 1).

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***Audit Objective:***

To assess the effectiveness of SAS's contract management over providers of substance abuse services.

***Audit Conclusion:***

We concluded that SAS's contract management over providers of substance

abuse services was moderately effective. We noted one reportable condition (Finding 2).

***Reportable Condition:***

SAS needs to improve its monitoring activity related to substance abuse treatment service providers (Finding 2).

***Noteworthy Accomplishments:***

During 2005, SAS assumed the function of managing the placement of offenders in residential substance abuse treatment facilities following a referral from Field Operations Administration agents. This process, commonly referred to as gatekeeping, entails analyzing the substance abuse treatment needs of the individual offender and matching those needs to a particular residential treatment provider. Prior to this change, SAS had contracted for this service with a private vendor. Upon assuming this activity, SAS realized a cost savings of approximately \$250,000 per year.

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**Agency Response:**

Our audit report includes 2 findings and 2 corresponding recommendations. SAS's preliminary response indicates that it agrees with the recommendations.

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A copy of the full report can be obtained by calling 517.334.8050 or by visiting our Web site at: <http://audgen.michigan.gov>



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