

Washington State Interagency Opioid Working Plan: Monthly Updates for Partners

JULY 25, 2017

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IMPORTANT NEWS AND EVENTS

- Gov. Jay Inslee signed [House Bill 1427](#) into law on May 16 to help address the opioid crisis. This legislation requires DOH Boards and Commissions to develop opioid prescribing rules, expands access to Prescription Monitoring Program data, modifies standards for certifying and siting opioid treatment programs, and modifies terminology and declarations regarding treatment for opioid use disorder. (Contact [Jason McGill](#))
- DOH was awarded the Enhanced State Surveillance of Opioid-Involved Morbidity and Mortality (ESOOS) grant in fall 2016 which was recently funded in July 2017. DOH will use the funding to increase the timeliness of reporting nonfatal and fatal opioid overdose and associated risk factors; disseminate surveillance findings to key stakeholders working to prevent opioid-involved overdoses; and share data with CDC to support improved multi-state surveillance of and response to opioid-involved overdoses. (Contact [Therese Hansen](#))

PREVENTING OPIOID ABUSE AND MISUSE

- DSHS is contracting with a media firm to develop a statewide opioid misuse prevention campaign. (Contact: [Deb Schnellman](#) and [Billy Reamer](#))
- The Bree Collaborative, in collaboration with dentists, developed a guideline on managing acute dental pain. The guideline is available for [public comment](#) through 5pm Friday, August 25. (Contact: [Ginny Weir](#))
- Materials from May's Summit on Reducing the Supply of Illegal Opioids in Washington are now available online at: <http://www.atg.wa.gov/opioid-epidemic>. (Contact: [Kelly Richburg](#))
- HCA and L&I hosted a meeting on June 14 focused on "Emerging practices on collaborative care management of chronic pain." Materials from the meeting are available [online](#).
- The Washington State Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission (PQAC) approved guidance stating that pharmacists and/or prescribers who partially fill prescriptions consistent with the Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Act (CARA) 2016 law would not be violating state or federal law. Minutes from the May 12th PQAC meeting are available [here](#).

TREATING OPIOID USE DISORDER

- A component of the SAMHSA State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis Grants (Opioid STR) includes DSHS establishing a Hub and Spoke system to support treatment for opioid use disorder. Six organizations with expertise in substance abuse treatment will receive funding to

act as “Hubs”. These Hubs will support healthcare providers prescribing – at least two MAT products, including at least one agonist (Methadone and Buprenorphine) and one antagonist (Naltrexone) in the community. Each Hub will support at least five “Spokes” (Treatment centers, behavioral Health, referral organizations, primary care, emergency rooms, etc.) that will provide referrals, care coordination and other treatment services to patients desiring MAT services). (Contact: [Tom Fuchs](#))

- DOH and UW ADAI provide technical assistance to clinics that want to start prescribing buprenorphine. (Contact: [Mary Catlin](#))
- In 2015, DSHS received federal funding to expand access to integrated medication-assisted treatment with buprenorphine for opioid use disorders. Learn more about this work [here](#).

PREVENTING DEATHS FROM OVERDOSE

- All Safeway and Albertson's pharmacies in Washington now have naloxone available for patients directly from pharmacists. The pharmacies will stock Narcan Nasal Spray, and patients can pick it up after a 15-20 minute consult with a pharmacist.
- DSHS and UW ADAI are implementing a federal overdose prevention grant that supplies naloxone to 13 syringe exchange programs and further targets overdose response training and naloxone distribution to lay and professional first responders in four high-need regions (North Sound, South Sound, Southwest WA, and Southeast WA). (Contact: [Susan Kingston](#))
- UW ADAI has produced a new training guide and materials for WA State law enforcement on overdose response and naloxone that has been endorsed by the WA State Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs. It is now available on [stopoverdose.org](#) (Contact: [Susan Kingston](#))
- UW ADAI has resources to get connected to naloxone. If you or someone you know needs naloxone contact UW COSE or visit [stopoverdose.org](#) (Contact: [Susan Kingston](#))

USING DATA

- The Bree Collaborative has adopted a set of [opioid prescribing metrics](#). These metrics will provide a full picture of opioid prescribing practices as well as morbidity and mortality and support work to improve prescribing practices. (Contact: [Ginny Weir](#))
- UW ADAI launched a new survey in syringe exchanges on June 12, 2017. This survey will help understand the needs and behaviors of people who inject drugs. (Contact: [Susan Kingston](#))
- Starting in July, DOH will release 2017 quarterly reports on fatal and non-fatal drug overdoses. (Contact: [Conrad Otterness](#))
- HCA is using their data to track opioid prescribing, overdoses, and buprenorphine use among Medicaid patients. (Contact: [Amanda Avalos](#))

MEDICAID TRANSFORMATION DEMONSTRATION OPIOID-RELATED PROJECTS

- Under the Medicaid Transformation Demonstration, each Accountable Community of Health (ACH) is working to develop its project plan, which must be submitted to the Health Care Authority by November 16, 2017. One of the two projects required of all ACHs is “Addressing the Opioid Use Public Health Crisis”. Information on the project components, including target populations, metrics, recommended approach and implementation stages, can be found in the [proposed Project Toolkit included as part of the planning protocol](#). A project template, to be

used by ACHs to prepare and submit their project plans, is [available for review and public comment](#) through June 30. Get involved with an opioid-related project in [your ACH](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- DSHS DBHR has one open funding opportunity for [Opioid and Prescription Drug Misuse and Abuse Prevention](#). (Deadline July 21, 2017)
- SAMSHA has a new opioid-related funding opportunity: [First Responders - Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act Cooperative Agreement](#) (Deadline July 31, 2017)
- Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health has a new opioid-related funding opportunity: [Empowered Communities for a Healthier Nation Initiative](#) (Deadline August 1, 2017)

UPDATES FROM PARTNERS

- To submit brief updates for this newsletter, contact [Niquette Kelcher](#).
- To sign up for updates from the Washington Opioid Response Workgroup, [subscribe here](#).

IMPORTANT RESOURCES

- The [Washington State Interagency Opioid Working Plan](#) is our state's comprehensive strategy to reduce morbidity and mortality associated with opioids.
- [StopOverdose.Org](#) has information on overdose education, naloxone availability, and treatment resources.
- [DOH Prescription Monitoring Program](#) (PMP) helps providers register to use the PMP system and assists clinics with establishing electronic connections between the PMP database and their Electronic Medical Record.
- The [Washington Tracking Network](#) (WTN) is a public website where users can find population health data including data on drug overdoses.
- [StartTalkingNow.Org](#) is a public website for parents and caregivers to access resources to empower conversations and education that is effective in reducing youth substance use.
- [TheAthenaForum.Org](#) is a public website for prevention professionals with a variety of current resources to help professionals address the opioid crisis in their communities.