

Iowa Department of Public Health
Division of Behavioral Health/Bureau of Substance Abuse
Opioid Update: July 2022

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) offers the Opioid Update to share information about opioid use and Iowa's efforts to address the national opioid epidemic. Please feel free to submit topics to RaChel Greenwood at rachel.greenwood@idph.iowa.gov.

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Iowa News

Iowa Integration Campaign

The Iowa Board of Pharmacy is pleased to announce statewide support to help healthcare providers integrate Iowa Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) data and NarxCare analytics into approved Electronic Health Records (EHR) and Pharmacy Management System (PMS), using Bamboo Health's PMP Gateway solution. The Iowa Board of Pharmacy will cover the licensing fees associated with the integration service for providers in Iowa that elect to connect their EHR or PMS to PMP Gateway.

Integration eliminates the need for prescribers and pharmacists to navigate to the Iowa PMP website, log in, and enter their patient's information. Instead, the EHR or PMS will automatically initiate a patient query, which will return the patient's controlled substance prescription records directly within the clinical workflow inside the EHR or PMS, helping save 4.2 minutes per patient encounter.

Bamboo Health's PMP Gateway solution is already built into over 500+ EMRs, EHR, pharmacy management systems, and e-prescribing vendor tools, making integration easy.

If your organization is interested in integrating your EHR or PMS with the state PMP, please follow the steps below:

Get Started Today:

- Authorized decision makers can get started today by visiting the [Customer Connect Portal](#).

The Iowa Board of Pharmacy looks forward to working with providers in Iowa to improve provider access to critical controlled drug prescription history information and combat the opioid crisis in the State of Iowa.

Opioid News

Longer Engagement with MOUD Leads to Better Outcomes for Patients

A study of Medicaid patients conducted by researchers at the University of Wisconsin Madison School of Medicine and Public Health found that the longer individuals with opioid use disorder (OUD) are treated with medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) the less likely they are to overdose. The study looked at treatment overdose data from Wisconsin and 10 other states with high opioid overdose deaths.

To read the article about the study, please click on this link: [ADDPRO](#)

Drug Enforcement Administration Toxicology Testing Program Releases Quarterly Report

Between January 1, 2022 and March 31, 2022, 104 biological samples and 1 drug product were submitted to the Drug Enforcement Administration Toxicology (DEA TOX). The samples were submitted by 13 states, including Iowa. DEA TOX then analyzed these samples for new psychoactive substances, traditional illicit drugs, and prescription or over the counter drugs.

From the submitted samples, DEA TOX identified and confirmed a total of 580 drugs and metabolites. These drugs and metabolites consisted of 65 new psychoactive substance detections, 216 traditional illicit drug detections, and 278 prescription or over the counter drug detections during this reporting period

To view the report, please click on this link: [DEATOX](#)

Study Finds Mailing At-Home Kits Improves Safe Disposal Rates for Leftover Opioid Prescriptions

Researchers from the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania started a program that mailed patients of orthopedic and urologic procedures kits to safely dispose of leftover opioid pain pills. The researchers found this method significantly increased self-reported disposal as compared to patients who were only notified about nearby disposal locations and were not sent an at-home disposal kit.

Researchers aimed to target leftover opioid medications as they are considered a concern because of their potential to be misused by the individual for whom the medications were prescribed or diverted to someone else.

To read the study, please click on this link: [ADDICTIONPRO](#)

First Responder Deflection in Rural Communities

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) has released a news brief on first responder deflection and pre-arrest diversion in an effort to combat the opioid crisis. The brief discusses the five pathways of first responder deflection with a specific focus on rural communities. The Bureau of

Justice Assistance explores challenges faced by first responders in rural communities and innovative responses that have been developed to address those challenges.

To read the news brief, please click on this link: [BJA](#)

To read the full report on first responder deflection, please click on this link: [FRDP](#)

Resources

Peer-to-Peer Learning Opportunities

The Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) has begun a Peer Recovery Support Services Mentoring Initiative (PRSSMI). PRSSMI participants are matched with a mentor site, a program with experienced peer recovery support services specialists. Through the partnership, the mentor site provides consultation and support through virtual learning sessions and an on-site visit.

For more information on this learning opportunity, please click on this link: [COSSAP](#)