

Iowa Department of Public Health
Division of Behavioral Health/Bureau of Substance Abuse
Opioid Update for Wednesday, May 15, 2019

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 Julie Jones at julie.jones@idph.iowa.gov.

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Department News

Naloxone for Law Enforcement Initiative

In an attempt to further reduce the number of opioid involved deaths in Iowa, IDPH sponsored an initiative to equip every interested law enforcement officer in the state with one (1) free naloxone (Narcan nasal) kit. Quite often law enforcement personnel are the first to a scene when a suspected overdose has occurred. Having the ability to administer naloxone without delay could mean the difference between life and death.

As a result of this initiative, *over 2,300 kits were requested by more than 140 law enforcement agencies* in Iowa. The kits have been ordered and once received by IDPH, will be shipped to the various agencies across the state. IDPH would like to thank the Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association (ISSDA) and the Iowa Police Chiefs' Association (IPCA) for their help with this effort.

Opioid News

National Health Service Corps

Each year, HRSA's Bureau of Health Workforce accepts applications from eligible health care facilities throughout the United States and its territories to become National Health Service Corps (NHSC)-approved sites. As a reminder, the 2019 application is currently open and will close on May 30 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

Organizations are encouraged to apply for approval during this current cycle because this is the last opportunity ahead of the Fiscal Year 2020 NHSC Loan Repayment Program cycles. If you are not already an NHSC-approved site, review your eligibility requirements to be considered an NHSC-approved site before the May 30 deadline.

New facility types were recently added, which include: Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs), Office Based Opioid Treatment (OBOTs) and Non-Opioid Substance Use Disorder Sites. The NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program and the NHSC Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Workforce Loan Repayment Program are available to new and current staff as retention tools.

To learn more about the National Health Service Corps, please click on the following link:
[NHSC](#)

ONDCP Releases Report on the President's Commission on Combatting Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) released a report on the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis.

"From day one, our mission has been the same – to save more of our family members, friends, and neighbors dying from drug overdoses. Over the past year, the Trump Administration has made record investments and brought together the entire federal government to tackle America's addiction crisis. The President's Commission helped shape and inform the strategy we are implementing, and we have already begun to see significant progress because of these efforts," ONDCP Director James Carroll said.

The report outlines the progress the Trump Administration has made to curb addiction, and tackle drug demand and the opioid crisis through prevention, interdiction and treatment. To read the entire report, please click on the following link: [ONDCP](#)

Iowa News

DEA Brings in Record Number of Unused Pills during Drug Take Back Day

Americans nationwide did their part to drop off a record number of unused, unwanted or expired prescription medications during the DEA's 15th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, at close to 6,000 sites across the country. Together with a record-setting amount of local, state and federal partners, DEA collected and destroyed close to one million pounds (nearly 475 tons) of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs, making it the most successful event in DEA history. *With 135 collection sites in Iowa, the state collected 11,680 pounds of prescription medications.*

For more information on National Take Back Day results, please click on the following link: [DEA](#)

Upcoming Trainings

Implementing the CDC Guidelines for Opioid Prescribing: May 21

In 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released the CDC Guidelines on Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain. The target audience of this webinar is doctors. This training will assist participants in understanding and applying the guideline. Specific objectives of the training include:

- Determine when initiation or continuation of opioids is indicated in the treatment of chronic pain
- Evaluate and mitigate risk related to opioid use through dose limitations, clinical reassessment, and monitoring tools like the prescription drug monitoring program and urine drug testing
- Identify quality measures applicable to clinical practices to assess implementation of the CDC guidelines

Participants can choose to attend the in-person event at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, or they participate via live webinar. For more information about the training, please click on the following link: [CDC](#)

Training of Trainers: Opioid Overdose Education and Naloxone: May 22 or 23

As part of the State Opioid Response grant, IDPH is pleased to offer a free “training of trainers” on how to recognize and respond to an opioid overdose. The training will include an overview of an opioid use disorder; opioid overdose recognition and response; how to properly administer naloxone and manage overdose situations; and how to deliver overdose and naloxone education to others. Upon training completion, individuals will be able to train others in their community on how to recognize and respond to an opioid overdose.

- May 22, 2019 in Waterloo – The Isle Casino and Hotel
- May 23, 2019 in Council Bluffs – Hilton Garden Inn

For more information about the training, please click on the following link: [IDPH](#)