

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY OPIATE TASK FORCE MEETING

Tuesday, August 28, 2012  
2:00-4:00 PM

**Present:** Helen Jones-Kelley, ADAMHS Board  
Robert Carlson, WSU/CITAR  
Jeff Cooper, Public Health-Dayton & Mont. Co.  
Russell Falck, WSU/CITAR  
James Gross, Public Health-Dayton & Mont. Co.  
Andrea Hoff, ADAMHS  
Major Dave Hale, Mont. Co. Sherriff's Office  
Tim Lane, WSU/CITAR  
Gary LeRoy, WSU/SOM  
Jeffrey Lewis, Cedarville University  
Dwight Richard, Project C.U.R.E., Inc.  
Darla Rudolph, ADAMHS Board  
Heather Stevens, WSU/Weekend Intervention Program  
Amy Wendell, CareSource  
John Woolwine, State Medical Board

**Guests:** Dr. Jim Huizenga, NARx Program  
Marty Larson, GDAHA  
Jill Marlow, Good Samaritan Hospital  
Judi Moseley, Ohio Department of Health  
Cindy Penn, Ohio Department of Health

### Welcome

Helen Jones-Kelley opened the meeting of the Opiate Task Force at 2:11 p.m. Helen thanked everyone for attending and asked that individuals introduce themselves.

### NARx Program

Dr. Jim Huizenga and Marty Larson gave a short presentation on the NARx Program.

Dr. Huizenga explained that this software product was designed to help busy healthcare providers make informed decisions regarding the prescribing of narcotics to their patients.

Highlights of the System:

- The user clicks on a tab or icon to start the NARx software using their own network or they login to the State PMP program and click the NARx link to go immediately to their dashboard.
- The dashboard indicates all current patient information.

- Within 8-10 seconds of a patient registering the dashboard automatically updates with the patients information/history to include the NARx score and reports.
- For those patients with a low NARx score, the provider can simply treat the patient without worry about drug abuse issues. If a patient has a medium score the provider can study the patient's past history regarding prescription drug use. If a patient has a high score the provider can then proceed cautiously and care for the patient in the best way possible.

Dr. Huizenga explained the NARx scoring system:

- A score of less than 200 indicates that the patient is unlikely to have any pattern of prescription drug abuse.
- A score of 200-500 could indicate a pattern of abuse and should be studied.
- A score of over 500 indicates that the patient has a pattern of abuse and should be treated cautiously.

The last digit of the score mirrors the number of active prescriptions the patient has in effect at the time the score was calculated.

Questions presented to Dr. Huizenga from the Task Force included:

1. Is the NARx score included in the patient's record? The answer is yes.
2. Is this a free service? The answer to this is no. The cost is approximately \$20,000 a year to hospitals. The return on investment is approximately \$2-4 million per year.
3. Can a provider access this system if separate from the hospital? The answer to this is yes.

### **Abbreviated Prescriber Education Session**

Tim Lane and Russell Falck presented to the Task Force what the current overdose issues look like in Montgomery County.

- **Accidental Overdose Deaths in Montgomery County**  
2010: 127  
-Prescription Opioids: 74%

-Benzodiazepines: 70%

2011: 130

-Prescription Opioids: 62%

-Benzodiazepines: 65%

Jan-May, 2012: 50

-Prescription Opioids: 52%

-Benzodiazepines: 56%

- Highest Percentage of Accidental Overdose Deaths in Montgomery County in 2011 by age is the 45-54 year old age group.
- Highest Percentage of Accidental Overdose Deaths in Montgomery County in 2011 by gender and race are white males.
- **Poisoning Death Toxicology Mentions, 2011 Total Deaths: 130**  
-Alprazolam (Xanax) contributed to the most deaths with Cocaine being second.
- Heroin use is on the rise in Montgomery County
- **Montgomery County Emergency Department Visits, 2007-2010 (N= 1,622)**  
-White Females were the highest users of this service  
-45-54 year olds made up the highest percentage of this service
- **Non-Fatal Overdoses in Montgomery County, 2007-2010: Most Frequently Mentioned Drugs**  
-Benzodiazepines  
-Prescription Opioids  
-Heroin  
-Cocaine
- Maps were presented broken down by zip code in the following categories:  
-Overdose Cases 2007-2010  
-Overdose Cases Resulting in Emergency Dept. Visits 07-10  
-Overdose Cases Resulting in Death 2007-2010

### **Poison Death Review**

Tim Lane passed out to members of the Task Force a handout outlining a poisoning death review summary from 2012.

Statistics noted were as follows:

- 45-54 year olds poisoned to death increased from 32% in 2011 to 36% in 2012.
- 84% of those who were poisoned to death had a physical disability or illness.
- The location of death (hospital) saw an increase from 22% in 2011 to 24% in 2012.
- 10-15% of these deaths could have been prevented.
- The use of prescription opioids has been decreasing as the use of heroin has been increasing over the last two and a half years.
- 82% of individuals have two or more of the following CNS depressants in their systems at the time of death: alcohol, heroin, prescription opioids, and sedatives.

#### **Hierarchical Risk Reduction Message**

Russel Falck passed out to members of the Task Force a handout outlining ways to prevent overdoses. Russell asked if all were in favor of distributing this out to the public. Task Force members agreed.

#### **NIATx Buprenorphine Implementation Study**

Andrea announced that Montgomery County had been chosen to participate in the above study and now is awaiting word as to whether our county will be one of the five who receives more intensive technical assistance. All eligible Montgomery County providers will participate in this process.

#### **New MAT Clinics**

Helen announced that two Medical Assisted Treatment clinics will be opening in the area:

- One Methadone facility is to open in approximately four weeks on Ludlow Street. This facility will also provide Suboxone.

- A second facility will open in UMADAOP's offices at the site of the old Saint Elizabeth's Hospital. They will be operating both Methadone and Suboxone out of UMADAOP's offices.

### **Drug Drop Boxes**

Andrea shared information concerning drug drop boxes. The state is making dozens of drop-off boxes available to Ohio counties for the collection of prescription drugs in an anti-drug abuse effort. The Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio Attorney General's Office and Drug Free Action Alliance will also provide at least three incinerators for the destruction of the drugs once they're gathered. The boxes will be located inside law enforcement offices for the disposal of unused and expired prescription drugs.

### **Prescription Drug Safes**

Andrea passed out to members of the Task Force a handout concerning MedGuard Safes. Ohio is trying to bring awareness of the prescription drug issue. Drug Free Action Alliance is selling the MedGuard safes to those who wish to have a safe, secure place in which to store their prescribed medications.

### **Bridging the Gap Conference**

Andrea passed out to members of the Task Force information about the upcoming "Bridging the Gap Conference" being held Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at the Crowne Plaza in Dublin, Ohio. The Conference kicks-off September 21<sup>st</sup>, Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. with a Celebrating Successes and Tribute Conference. Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> includes a free training that begins from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. "Strengthen and Sustain Community Efforts on Opiate Abuse Prevention: A Forum to Gain Tools for Success and Collaboration."

### **Open Forum**

Helen asked for any further items to be brought to the Task Force.

Judi Moseley stated that the Governor's Cabinet Opiate Action Team is making progress. Their first and most important effort is working on emergency guidelines. Five working groups comprise the Action Team to include:

1. Treatment - including Medication Assisted Treatment
2. Professional Education
3. Public Education
4. Enforcement

## 5. Recovery Supports

Judi also shared that the Prescription Drug Abuse Action Group continues to meet regarding policy issues regarding reimbursement to Medicaid providers who conduct drug screens. In the long run this saves money but in the short term does not save dollars right away.

Judi mentioned that students in Cuyahoga County are putting on a video contest regarding preventing prescription drug abuse. Jackson County is very active in this area and Jefferson County is starting (getting up and running) in peer to peer supports as well.

Jeffrey Lewis shared that the School of Pharmacy at Cedarville University to include faculty and students will begin going into schools to educate on the issue of prescription drug abuse.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

### **Next Meeting**

Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> 2:00-4:00 PM

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