

Utah Department of Health Efforts to Address Opioids Health Providers

Current Utah Department of Health Provider Efforts

- Promote the uptake of the [Utah Clinical Guidelines on Prescribing Opioids for Treatment of Pain](#).
- Update and promote, "[Controlled Substances: Education for the Prescriber](#)", continuing education module for controlled substance prescribers in collaboration with the Utah Medical Association.
- Provide funding to local health departments and local substance abuse authorities to implement prescriber intervention efforts (continuing education, academic detailing, material dissemination, awareness efforts, etc).
- Develop and implement an academic detailing curriculum and evaluation with HealthInsight and the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing.
- Promote the [Living Well](#) website to providers to refer patients to self-management programs, such as the Chronic Pain Self-Management Program, a 6-session evidence-based workshop designed for those dealing with chronic pain.
- Encourage [safe prescribing practices](#) among Utah healthcare providers including key action items and resources through the [Stop the Opioid](#) media campaign.
- Promote the [Talk to Your Pharmacist Toolkit](#) and [encourage pharmacists](#) to talk to their customers about opioid risks, signs of an opioid overdose, naloxone, and safe storage and disposal of opioids.
- Develop and disseminate a pamphlet to pharmacies across Utah in response to [H.B. 399](#) (Sponsor: Representative Eliason, 2018 General Session).
- Develop, implement, maintain, and evaluate the Controlled Substance Database Patient and Prescriber dashboards in collaboration with the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing and the Department of Technology Services.
- Support the Utah Coalition for Opioid Overdose Prevention Provider Training and Patient Education Provider / Insurer RoundTable efforts to begin a dialogue centered around improving patient health.

Promising Provider Efforts (CDC supported activities)

- Implement best practices for prescription drug monitoring programs including interoperability with other states, proactive reporting, and enhanced accessibility for clinicians through electronic health record integration.
- Enhance linkage to care for those with an opioid use disorder or at risk of an overdose by connecting patients with a wide range of treatment and wrap around services.
- Identify and implement promising emergency department interventions to create post-overdose protocols, policies and procedures to ensure vulnerable patients are receiving naloxone, being referred to MAT, provided "warm hand-offs" to community-based recovery organizations, and are linked to patient navigators.
- Facilitate prescribers obtaining their DATA waiver in coordination with substance abuse prevention partners.
- Deploy community health workers as part of a post-overdose hospital care team.
- Partner with syringe service programs to offer comprehensive services that facilitate both reduction of opioid-related harms and linkages to care for opioid use disorder.