



Performance Note
HB0295 - Opioid and Overdose
Fatality Review Amendments
Sponsor: Rep. Eliason, Steve



Performance Note Report

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Agency: Department of Health

Funding For:

New Services or Benefit

Public Benefit:

Purpose: The purpose of this program is to improve understanding of circumstances related to overdose and opioid-related deaths in order to inform prevention and intervention efforts and ultimately decrease deaths.

Services: The program will compile data regarding overdose and opioid-related deaths including toxicology information, demographics, sources of opioids or drugs, and contextual information surrounding the death. The Death Scene Investigators will document information that assists the Office of the Medical Examiner to determine a cause of death. The Overdose and Opioid Fatality Review Committee will 1) promote cooperation and coordination among agencies, 2) develop an understanding of the causes and incidences of overdose deaths, 3) make recommendations for changes to law or policy, inform public health and public safety entities of emerging trends, 4) and monitor data and trends for emerging threats.

Expected Outcome: The expected outcome of this program is to decrease overdoses in Utah. This includes the following indicators: 1) Decrease the rate of drug overdose deaths involving opioids per 100,000 population, 2) Decrease the rate of drug overdose ED visits/hospitalizations involving opioids per 100,000 population, and 3) provide recommendations to key stakeholders to increase public safety and public health.

Implementations and Resources: A Health Program Specialist III will be funded from the bill to coordinate the Opioid and Overdose Fatality Review Committee. They will review case definitions, prepare case presentations, and facilitate meetings to review opioid and overdose death cases. This includes requesting records, storing them on a secure and protected server, and providing relevant case information to the committee to prepare for reviews. Costs to implement the Opioid and Overdose Fatality Review Committee that will be absorbed by the Violence and Injury Prevention program include a Research Assistant I and Epidemiologist II.

How: The proposed activities will cause an increase in cooperation and coordination among agencies, generate a robust understanding of overdose and opioid-related fatalities, and promote policy and programmatic recommendations. Fatal or near-fatal opioid overdose is a significant public health problem in Utah. Historically, Utah has ranked in the top states for drug poisoning deaths. Drug misuse and overdoses affect individuals, families, and communities at all levels of society. Opioids, including

heroin and pharmaceutical opioid analgesics, are involved in a majority of overdose deaths. To support the development of effective strategies for preventing and responding to overdoses, it is necessary and appropriate to review and analyze available information related to overdose deaths statewide. The creation of a statewide, multidisciplinary, multi-agency opioid fatality review committee will enable public health and public safety authorities to receive information and expert consultation from a wide array of stakeholders while preserving the confidentiality of protected information, including personal health information.

Performance Measures

Goal

Title: Decrease the number of overdose deaths by 10% from 2018 to 2020.

Description: Number of deaths as a result of an overdose in a calendar year. This definition only includes deaths with a manner of death of undetermined or unintentional.

Collection Method: The number of overdose deaths is tracked in collaboration with the Office of the Medical Examiner.

	2020	2021	2022
Target	563.00	0.00	0.00
Baseline	625.00	0.00	0.00

Goal

Title: Decrease the number of opioid-related overdoses by 10% from 2018 to 2020.

Description: Number of overdoses related to opioids in a calendar year seen in emergency departments.

Collection Method: The number of overdoses seen in emergency departments is collected and monitored by the Utah Department of Health.

	2020	2021	2022
Target	960.00	0.00	0.00
Baseline	1067.00	0.00	0.00

Goal

Title: Number of publications with recommendations provided to key stakeholders.

Description: Recommendations derived from the reviews will be compiled and shared with key stakeholders through reports.

Collection Method: Recommendations from the reviews and from the aggregate data recompiled. The Violence and Injury Prevention Program will ensure reliability by working with key stakeholders to identify actionable recommendations that can be feasibly implemented.

	2020	2021	2022
Target	7.00	0.00	0.00
Baseline	3.00	0.00	0.00