

# Opioid Informatics Info.

## Education about Opioids

### [Curriculum Infusion Package on Opioid Use Disorders](#)



This 5-part Curriculum Infusion Package (CIP) on Opioid Use Disorders (OUD) was developed in 2019 by the Pacific Southwest Addiction Technology Transfer Center. The OUD CIP was developed for college and university faculty to infuse brief, science-based OUD-specific content into existing substance use disorder-related course syllabi (e.g., foundations of addiction, screening and assessment, etc.). Instructors can select the specific content to infuse throughout the duration of the course, depending on specific needs of

the learners. Each slide contains notes for the instructor to provide guidance, as necessary. References are included in each slide and handouts when possible.

## Online Resources

### [Addiction Technology Transfer Center](#)

The ATTC Network is an international, multidisciplinary resource from professionals in the addictions treatment and recovery services field.

Established in 1993 by the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**, the ATTC Network is comprised of 10 U.S.-based Centers, 6 International HIV Centers (funded by PEPFAR), 2 National Focus Area Centers, and a Network Coordinating Office. Together the Network serves the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Pacific Islands of Guam, American Samoa, Palau, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, and the Mariana Islands. The International HIV ATTCs serve Vietnam, Southeast Asia, South Africa, and Ukraine.

### **The ATTC Network Mission & Vision**

- Accelerate the adoption and implementation of evidence-based and promising addiction treatment and recovery-oriented practices and services;
- Heighten the awareness, knowledge, and skills of the workforce that addresses the needs of people with substance use or other behavioral health disorders; and
- Foster regional and national alliances among culturally diverse practitioners, researchers, policy makers, funders, and the recovery community.

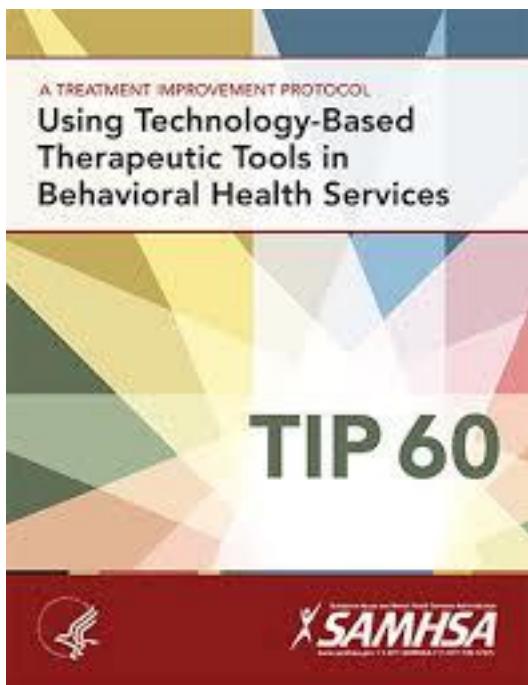
## Treatment Improvement Protocols

From Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

### **TIP 60: Using Technology-Based Therapeutic Tools in Behavioral Health Services**

This manual assists clinicians with implementing technology-assisted care. It highlights the importance of using technology-based assessments and interventions in behavioral health treatment services. The manual also discusses how technology reduces barriers to accessing care. Access the literature review.

***NOTE: Select Image to link to the TIP Manual.***



**TIP 60, Part 3: [Review of Literature](#)**



## **Federal Guidelines for Opioid Treatment Programs**

This manual provides guidelines for the operation of opioid treatment programs. It covers patient assessment, treatment planning, and recovery care. The manual also offers guidance for medication-assisted treatment for methadone and buprenorphine, and overdose and relapse prevention.

## **EHRA Publishes EHR Implementation Guide for Opioid Prescribing**

A new guide from EHRA offers recommendations for using CDC's opioid prescribing resource with EHR implementations. EHR Intelligence: Use & Optimization News. 11/2018

CDC published its **recommendations for opioid prescribing** in 2016 to address problems with prescribing, optimize patient safety, and curb the opioid epidemic.

The guide's recommendations apply to opioid prescribing for chronic pain but exclude prescribing for patients with active cancer, patients in palliative care, and patients with sickle-cell disease. The recommendations apply mostly to physicians, physician assistants, and advanced nurse prescribers of opioids making treatment decisions.

CDC's twelve recommendations are as follows:

1. *Opioids are not front line therapy*
2. *Establish goals for pain and function*
3. *Discuss risks and benefits*
4. *Use immediate-release opioids when starting*
5. *Use the lowest effective dose*
6. *Prescribe short durations for acute pain*
7. *Evaluate benefits and harms frequently*
8. *Use strategies to mitigate risks*
9. *Review PDMP data*
10. *Use urine drug testing*
11. *Avoid concurrent opioid and benzodiazepine prescribing*
12. *Offer treatment for opioid use disorder*

## **How Technology & Policy Can Help the Opioid Crisis**

### **HIMSS Policy Recommendations**

HIMSS recommended four ways tech can help the opioid crisis:

1. **Leverage Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs).** A number of states and hospitals are already working on PDMPs to reduce opioid misuse and abuse, beginning with only prescribing opioids when entirely appropriate in the first place. They're also tracking all prescription data with the aim of preventing avoidable deaths by overdose, allergies or drug-drug interactions.
2. **Equip health workers on the front lines of battle against opioids with interoperable electronic health information.** HIMSS said this will enable clinicians to make better decisions and, in turn, more effectively engage patients as partners.

**3. Use secure, interoperable technology across the care continuum.** This includes integrating acute care, addiction and mental health data, counseling and community support, outpatient services and public health.

**4. Leverage today's tech advances to appropriately and securely share information across disciplines.** Doing so could enable "law enforcement, social services, behavioral health, healthcare, and public health departments to give care where it's needed and better understand prescribing patterns, overdose rates and movement of the epidemic."

### Opioid Crisis: How tech and policy are fighting the epidemic

Healthcare IT News

### How Are Telehealth Laws Intersecting with Laws Addressing the Opioid Overdose Epidemic?

Pepin, Dawn JD, MPH; Hulkower, Rachel JD, MSPH; McCord, Russell F. JD

Journal of Public Health Management and Practice: July 24, 2019.

Research Brief Report:

Opioid-involved drug overdose deaths have been a growing concern in the United States for several decades. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identified several strategies to address the opioid overdose epidemic, including increased availability of and access to medication-assisted treatment and guidance on safer opioid prescribing practices. Telehealth offers the potential for increasing access and availability to these strategies, and laws governing telehealth have implications for their utilization. To understand how state telehealth laws intersect with the opioid overdose epidemic, we conducted a legal mapping study, a type of legal epidemiological assessment, of statutes and regulations that intersect at telehealth and opioids. This search yielded 28 laws from 17 states. These laws intersect both telehealth and the opioid overdose epidemic in different ways including prescribing limitations, opioid treatment through medication and counseling, patient plan review, and professional collaboration. Continued legal and policy surveillance is needed to be able to evaluate the impact of law in addressing opioid overdose outcomes.

### A Guide to Using Text Messages to Improve Substance Abuse Treatment Outcomes

### Vendor-Specific Initiatives

#### Texas Hospital Association pilots tech giving view of inpatient, outpatient opioids

Health Care IT News

This week, IllumiCare unveiled a new Controlled Substance app for the Smart Ribbon. It uses similar techniques to combine prescription tracking data for opioids and other controlled substance into one place for quick reference, tracking both inpatient and outpatient EPCS data.

### Meet the health IT vendors working to end the opioid crisis

## Health Care IT News

### **SPR Therapeutics: Tech in lieu of meds**

SPR Therapeutics' SPRINT device is a drug-free wearable that uses a thread-like wire and wearable stimulator to alleviate pain. In doing so, the device could replace the need for opioids in some cases.

### **Imprivata: Prescriber verification directly in EHR workflow**

On the surface, Imprivata's platform is pretty straightforward: enable providers to securely access, communicate and share patient information using its OneSign platform. But the tech proves more than valuable when it comes to validating who is prescribing what type of medication.

### **LexisNexis: Shifting focus from what to who**

While many of the vendors in this sphere focus on the prescriber end, LexisNexis works directly with pharmacists to verify the identity of the person picking up the medication.

### **Mobile tech helps surgery practice write fewer opioid prescriptions, check with PDMP**

The orthopedic surgeons at Affiliated Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons of Maryland have recently adopted a mobile medication management application to better handle the prescribing and workflow processes of a practice where each doctor writes about 30 prescriptions per day for controlled substances, including opioids for pain management.

### **First Databank and DrFirst join forces to fight opioid crisis in Nebraska**

First Databank, a drug and medical device knowledge company that aims to help healthcare professionals make more precise decisions, has released its FDB Opioid Risk Management Module, which is designed to reduce the risk of opioid-related overdose and addiction potential.

### **An in-depth look at how one health system customized its Epic EHR to fight the opioid crisis**

Health Care IT News, August 09, 2019

### **The Role of Technology in Solving the Opioid Crisis** Webinar [Free with name/organization] Relias

### **Hospitals leaning on EHRs for opioid management**

KLAS surveyed more than 100 various-sized providers for insights about how they're relying on technology to help them manage the opioid crisis in their communities. Electronic health records are a basic but critical tool in the fight, and expectations on vendors are high, the study shows.

## How leading health systems customize EHRs, leverage analytics to improve opioid prescribing

As the opioid crisis continues to spread nationwide, it's requiring an all-hands-on-deck effort to turn the tide. Health information technology – electronic health record customizations, predictive analytics algorithms, e-prescribing tools – is proving to be a valuable weapon in the fight.

### Policy Enablers and Barriers: Hear How Two HIMSS Davies Award Winners

Successfully Navigated HIT Policy - Webinar [On Demand] 10/09/2018 – FREE

HIMSS - The Learning Center

Learn how two Davies Award-winning organizations navigated the intersection between what they are achieving through health IT optimization and the policy implications of their working environments. Discover how to leverage EHR tools to increase communication and patient satisfaction scores while decreasing office visits, as well as how to leverage analytics to change opioid prescribing behavior.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Explore how policy barriers can be addressed and/or overcome by leveraging existing systems
- Discuss key policy enablers and policy challenges and opportunities
- Leverage a variety of information and technology tools to enable improved care outcomes in order to meet federal and state quality reporting and performance threshold

## Opioid Management Perception 2018 EMR Vendors Being Pushed to Center Stage

KLAS October 16, 2018

NOTE: REPORT AVAILABLE WITH ACCOUNT

More than 100 opioid-related overdose deaths occur in the United States every day, and the healthcare community knows that making changes at the point of care can help stem the tide of addiction. To discover what steps healthcare organizations are taking, KLAS asked over 100 leaders from organizations of all sizes to describe their plans for opioid management and to share what technology vendors they are looking to for help. Unlike traditional KLAS performance reports, this report is focused on discovering what strategies and technologies are top of mind as organizations implement, monitor, and improve their opioid stewardship strategies.

## Opioid Prescription Intelligence 2019 - KLAS Providers Realizing Improved Opioid-Prescribing Outcomes

KLAS, May 23, 2019 REPORT AVAILABLE WITH ACCOUNT

Opioid prescription intelligence solutions combat the challenge of accessing data from prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) by pulling this crucial information into the EMR workflow. Hospitals and practices are seeing great success with these solutions—organizations consistently report they can better identify opiate seekers, reduce dangerous prescription mismatches, improve prescribing habits, and advance their opioid-stewardship strategies. No matter the solution organizations choose or the details of their opioid-stewardship strategy, prescription intelligence solutions can benefit patients.

### KEY FINDINGS:

- All prescription-Intelligence Vendors High Performing
- PastRx, Appriss Health Customers See Highest Impact on Prescribing Practices
- Satisfaction with Integration High; Approaches Vary
- Due to Indirect Customer Relationships, Appriss Health & DrFirst Fall Behind in Strategic Guidance
- Opioid Prescription-Intelligence Vendor Scope

## **HealthIT.gov - Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology**

### Connecting for Impact: Linking Potential Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) to Patient Care Using Health IT

Prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) are one of the most promising tools available to address prescription drug misuse, abuse, and diversion. PDMPs are state-run electronic databases that provide critical health information to physicians and other health care providers about an individual's history of using controlled substance prescriptions. This information can be used to avoid inappropriate prescribing, identify drug-seeking behavior, and allows providers to intervene when there are signs of prescription drug misuse.

### **“Enhancing Access” Pilot Reports**

ONC led development of a series of pilots to test different technical solutions ranging from electronic prescribing tools to connecting PDMPs with HIEs. This was done to improve provider access to PDMP data. ONC released white papers which detail pilots' design and outcomes, and highlight personal anecdotes from health care providers who reflected on the success integration had on their practice.

[Phase 1:](#)

[Phase 2:](#)

## Improving EHR Integration, Interoperability May Curb Opioid Abuse

Improving EHR integration with PDMPs and advancing interoperability may help to curb the opioid epidemic, according to CHIME. EHR Intelligence/Policy & Regulation News, February, 2018.

The College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) recently **recommended** federal agencies improve interoperability and EHR integration with prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) to help curb the opioid epidemic.

## Nearly 50% of Nurses See Opioids as a Top Population Health Concern

HealthIT Analytics 12/2018

Nurses and other healthcare professionals expect opioid abuse to have a detrimental effect on population health over the next five years.

## Addressing Opioid Abuse with Analytics, Population Health Strategies

Opioid abuse is reaching epidemic levels. How can providers leverage data analytics and population health management strategies to respond? HealthIT Analytics 11/2016

[Long but important report w/graphics]

Providers may wish to engage in one or more of the following activities to help them develop patient-centered pain management competencies:

- *Form a partnership with **mental health** and behavioral healthcare providers within the community to deliver substance abuse treatment to vulnerable patients*
- *Explore relationships with local pain management specialists to close knowledge gaps in opioid prescribing guidelines*
- *Utilize health information exchange, **admission discharge and transfer (ADT)** notifications, and PDMP databases to improve medication reconciliation and reduce the risk of doctor shopping*
- *Spend time with patients experiencing chronic pain to understand their concerns, symptoms, and challenges before prescribing or denying opioids*
- *Implement care coordination frameworks, such as the **patient-centered medical home**, to ensure that patients experience smooth transitions of care*
- *Develop opioid education programs for patients undergoing surgical interventions to ensure they do not use more medication than required*
- *Promote safe drug disposal programs within the community to prevent unauthorized access to opioids in the home environment*
- *Use available clinical quality measures to gauge provider performance on substance abuse screenings and treatment*
- *Understand the **socioeconomic challenges** of attributed patients and develop programs to address access to care, chronic disease management, and food or housing insecurity*
- *Be proactive about approaching and engaging with patients who exhibit risk factors for opioid abuse to prevent negative outcomes*

The nation's substance abuse crisis does not appear to be abating any time soon, but healthcare providers do have a number of tools and strategies at their disposal to help prevent

more patients from falling under the influence of opioids. A combination of data analytics, health information exchange, more careful prescribing habits, and a population health approach to patient management may start to reduce the availability of pain killers for non-medical users, closing down pathways to abuse before patients can succumb to their addictive properties.

### **Opioid Use Associated with Higher Patient Satisfaction Scores**

The link between prescription opioid use and high patient satisfaction scores calls into question reimbursements that hinge on satisfaction scores.

Patient Engagement HIT - Pt. Satisfaction News

January 10, 2018 - Patients using prescription opioids to manage their pain are 32 percent more likely to report high patient satisfaction scores, according to recent **research** out of Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

### **Cuts in Opioid Prescriptions Can Still Yield Patient Satisfaction**

Patient Engagement HIT: Patient Satisfaction News. 8/20/2019

Providers cut opioid prescriptions by one-third, but patient satisfaction with care still remained high. A new set of opioid prescribing guidelines out of the University of Michigan has proven to cut down on the number of opioid pain killers a surgeon prescribes without sacrificing patient satisfaction or pain management, according to new **data** published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

### **CMS Opioid Roadmap Prioritizes Healthcare Interoperability**

A new roadmap aims to leverage healthcare interoperability and clinical data to address the opioid epidemic.

EHR Intelligence: Use & Optimization News. 6/2018

**CMS opioid roadmap** provides strategies to reduce opioid overuse among Medicare beneficiaries through improved healthcare interoperability.

The federal agency's three-pronged approach focuses on opioid use disorder (OUD) prevention, treatment, and data utilization to ensure prevention and treatment efforts target the patient populations who most need them.

"Current estimates show that over two million people suffer from opioid use disorder, with a prevalence in Medicare of 6 out of every 1,000 beneficiaries," CMS announced. "In order to decrease that number, it is crucial that Medicare beneficiaries and providers are aware that there are options available for both prevention of developing new cases of OUD and the treatment of existing cases."

### **CMS Opioid Roadmap 3/2019**

#### **MATx Mobile App by SAMHSA**

MATx empowers health care practitioners to provide effective, evidence-based care for opioid use disorders. This free app supports practitioners who currently provide medication-assisted treatment (MAT), as well as those who plan to do so in the future.