Naloxone (Narcan) Initiatives and the Court System

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Learning Objectives

• Describe how Project DAWN programs prevent opioid overdose death by providing naloxone and training to the community
• Compare different models of partnership between local court systems and Project DAWN programs
• Identify potential strategies through which the learner’s own organization can prevent opioid overdose death through the use of naloxone
Naloxone: the basics

- Commonly known as Narcan (brand name)
- Opioid antagonist
- Fast-acting, safe, easy to use
- Prescription medication

Naloxone laws in Ohio

- House Bill 170, March 2014: Allowed for third-party prescription
- House Bill 4, July 2015: Allowed naloxone to be personally furnished without a prescription via a protocol
- House Bill 110, June 2016: “Good Samaritan Law”
- Senate Bill 319, April 2017: Allows service entities to keep naloxone onsite in case of an emergency
Naloxone formulations

- Intravenous/intramuscular
- Intramuscular via auto-injector
- Intranasal
  - NARCAN® Nasal Spray
  - Needle-less syringe with nasal atomizer

Project DAWN (Deaths Avoided With Naloxone)

- Leslie struggled with addiction for many years before passing away from a witnessed overdose in 2009
- First Project DAWN site established in Leslie’s hometown of Portsmouth, Ohio in 2012
- Any program that provides free naloxone and training to community members is a Project DAWN
Project DAWN kit

Typical kit:
- Storage pouch
- 2 doses of naloxone
- Training DVD
- Reference materials
- Face mask (for rescue breathing)

“Service entity” naloxone model
- Went into effect on April 6, 2017
- Permits naloxone to be available for administration at locations that serve individuals who may be at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose
  - Colleges, universities, schools, health departments, courts, probation departments, jails, homeless shelters, etc.
- Removes the requirement that the site be licensed as a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs
Service entity protocol

• Agency must establish a protocol signed by a licensed prescriber or local board of health

• Guidance document and sample protocol from State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy

Legal protections for service entities

• ORC 4729.514: A Service Entity or an employee, volunteer, or contractor of a Service Entity is not liable for or subject to any of the following [...] damages in any civil action, prosecution in any criminal proceeding, or professional disciplinary action.

• ORC 4731.943: A physician who in good faith authorizes an individual to administer naloxone under this section is not liable for or subject to any of the following for any act or omission of the authorized individual: damages in any civil action, prosecution in any criminal proceeding, or professional disciplinary action.
Where service entities can get naloxone

- Local Project DAWN program
  - www.odh.ohio.gov/projectdawn
- Ohio’s Pharmacy Service Center
  - www.mha.ohio.gov → supports → Ohio Pharmacy Services
- Licensed terminal distributor of dangerous drugs
  - Health departments, pharmacies, hospitals

Take Charge Ohio

- www.takechargeohio.org
Naloxone is an important tool in the fight against overdose and substance abuse disorder.

It is not the solution.

Contact Information

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Studies on naloxone-related risk compensation