



**Substance Misuse and Mental Health Alliance
Medical Practice Task Force
Meeting Minutes – Friday November 16, 2018
3:00-4:00 PM
Tucson Osteopathic Medical Foundation – Board Room**

In Attendance

Alyssa Padilla, *Arizona Center for Rural Health*
Charlotte Smith, *Pima County Health Department*
Gina Brewer, *Center for Behavioral Health*
Elena Cameron, *Arizona Center for Rural Health*
Nicholas Cogdall, *Pima County Health Department*

Raul Munoz, *Pima County Health Department*
Rachel Cummings, *Pima County Health Department*
Steve Nash, *Tucson Osteopathic Medical Foundation*
Tim Fagan, *PCMS & ArMA*
Zoe Smith, *Tucson Medical Center*

Welcome & Introductions

Alyssa Padilla, Arizona Center for Rural Health, welcomed everyone in attendance and a round-robin of introductions was done.

Overview of October Meeting and Information Collected

The group reviewed and approved the October meeting minutes. The group reviewed the updated prescribing guidelines discussed in the previous meeting and reiterated that these guidelines are part of a statewide effort to address the opioid crisis.

Arizona Board of Pharmacy Data

Raul Munoz, Pima County Health Department, provided the group in attendance with a copy of the data provided to the Health Department and the Arizona Center for Rural Health that gives an overview of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PMP) sign ups in the October of 2018. Statewide, 85% of prescribers and pharmacists have signed up but only approximately 30% actively use the PMP database. Other observation include:

- In Pima County, there is large representation of law enforcement.
- Currently, there is 114% registered, meaning that in addition to prescribers and pharmacists, law enforcement is represented as well as duplicate registrations, delegates, and some individuals that are not actively prescribing.
- There is a need to understand what percentage of registered providers are actively using the system in Pima County.

The group discussed the mechanism through which individuals are flagged as potential outliers and were interested in learning about how the process works. Additionally, the group expressed interest in how the PMP information care be joined with the electronic health records (EHR) and noted that the Arizona Board of Pharmacy and Governor's Office on Youth, Faith, and Family can help to facilitate the integration of these two systems.

Selection of Action Plan Items for Implementation

The group discussed several items for the group to incorporate into the action plan for 2019. These items include:

- Hosting a continuing medical education (CME) training on the new opioid prescribing guidelines and potentially having a broader "Rx 101" training. This training would be critical for select providers/nurses who have not previously been trained. The group noted that the PMP guidelines are being incorporated into all nursing school curriculum moving forward.
 - It was noted that an appropriate time for offering a physician training might be Saturday mornings during the spring season.
 - The CME offered would be a one credit for a one-hour training.



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- There is also an opportunity to offer the training online to allow for providers from across the state to participate, although the training would be target southern Arizonans.
 - The CME could be sponsored by both Tucson Medical Center and Tucson Osteopathic Medicine Foundation.
 - Lena and Alyssa will coordinate with the other Substance Misuse and Mental Health Task Forces to plan this CME.
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- Raul noted that the Pima County Health Department is aware of who is and is not signed up for PMP. The group discussed conducting outreach to these individuals to ensure they are aware of the PMP and help educate them on the system.
 - An intern through the Health Department could be used to conduct outreach, either by phone or by email to those who are not currently enrolled in the PMP.
 - The Medical Practice Task Force can work to develop a script that the potential intern could use for outreach and education efforts.
 - The group discussed how the Medical Practices Task Force could support efforts in Pima County to provide naloxone to incarcerated individuals through collaboration with Sonoran Prevention Works.
 - The group discussed potential opportunities through which this could be implemented and noted that some hospitals are not currently providing naloxone to individuals who are being discharged.
 - Collaboration with Sonoran Prevention Works could be leveraged to distribute naloxone at both the Pima County Jail and local hospitals.

Group Discussion

- The group briefly discussed a merger with the Referral and Treatment Taskforce but will wait to make a decision until the 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is published. The CHNA will help identify the most pressing health issues in Pima County and may refocus efforts the Alliance is taking to address substance misuse.
- The group agreed to include a brief policy update at each meeting, approximately 5 minutes.
- Tim Fagan shared that the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) issued a statement on misconceptions around CDC guidelines.
 - Starting January 1st, prescriptions will need to be delivered electronically, though this policy conflicts with the existing Indian Health Service requirements. Currently 20,000 waivers have been filed for those who are not ready to transition over to electronic prescribing.
 - The group noted that this change should be promoted online and through the Pima County Health Department.
- The group discussed that providers and prescribers are reluctant to prescribe pain killers because they feel it is a liability.



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General Updates, Events, & Information

Members of the group provided general updates and information, including:

- The Poison Control Center runs the Arizona Opioid Assistance and Referral (OAR) line and is collaborating with the state to expand services and to follow-up with case managers.
- The Arizona Pain + Addiction Curriculum Summit will be taking place on November 1st at 8am at the Black Canyon Conference Center in Phoenix. The Summit will be a progressive, evidence-based, pharma-free conference to discuss the Statewide Curriculum that was jointly developed by Deans and Curriculum Representatives from every MD, DO, NP, PA, ND, DMD and DPM program in Arizona. Interested members can register here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/painandaddiction>
- The Arizona State Board of Pharmacy Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program is now mandatory, so please spread the word to prescribers and pharmacists so they may sign-up and review controlled substance dispensing information for their patients.
- Raul Munoz noted that the Tohono O’odham Nation opioid prevention efforts have been collaborating with the bike program as a novel way to present information in an effective way.

Next Meeting:

Next meeting will be in January and Cynthia Potter from The Haven will provide a presentation on the science of addiction and the role ACES play in substance misuse.

Date: Wednesday, January 23rd

Time: 10-11am

Location: Abrams Public Health Center

Room: 1106/1108

Adjourn