Supporting Clinical Implementation of Prescribing Regulations

COAP Conference
March 2020
Preparation for implementation of Act 173 began prior to passage.

In 2016, Act 173 was signed into law to strengthen opioid prescribing guidelines and requirements.

This Act included requirements to update the Rule Governing the Prescribing of Opioids for Pain.

New additions to statute and Rule included:

- Universal precautions for the prescribing of opioids
- Limits for first time and youth opioid prescriptions for pain
- Co-prescribing of naloxone when prescribing an opioid prescription with an increased risk of overdose

The new Rule went into effect July 1, 2017
Blended funding helped support multiple projects.

- **CDC Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention for States**
  9/1/2015 – 8/31/2019
  Quality improvement work, materials, prescriber reports, preliminary prescriber needs assessments

- **SAMHSA Strategic Prevention Framework Prescription Drugs**
  9/1/2016-8/31/2021
  Targeted work with pediatricians and dentists, trainings

- **CDC Overdose Data 2 Action**
  9/1/2019 – 8/31/2022
  Quality improvement work, data quality improvement
Initial grant funds supported a provider needs assessment.

Focus groups and surveys determined the following findings*:

- Prescribers did not feel that they received sufficient training or continuing education on how to prescribe
- Prescribers did not want to damage the patient-provider relationship
- Prescribers wanted data to benchmark their progress and self-monitor

*Among others

“HELP ME... ...HELP YOU!”
Focus group findings were used to determine programs and products.

Vermont Department of Health
PDMP integrated tools provide prescribing support and help prescribers self-monitor.

**Prescriber Insight Reports**

**Clinical Alerts**

- Multiple Provider Episodes
- MME higher than 90
- Overlapping Opioid and Benzodiazepine
Continuing Education and personalized support helped address knowledge gaps.

Trainings and presentations on the Rules and opioid prescribing were offered for CMEs/CEUs at:
- Annual Meetings
- Conferences
- Large Practices
- Small Practices
- ... basically everywhere...

Academic Detailing and Quality Improvement Training with a primary care physician and a pediatrician was available on the Practice Level and on the Provider Level.
Materials helped support patient-prescriber conversations and provided prescriber information

Materials were developed for prescribers and patients

- Prescriber materials included fact sheets, FAQs and required opioid counseling info sheets

- Patient materials were worksheets to be completed and discussed with providers
Compared to 2017, there was a 35% increase in VPMS queries by prescribers who wrote opioid prescriptions in 2018.

The total MME dispensed has decreased 22% since the Rule went into effect.

In the same time, there has been a 19% decrease in the percentage of the population who received at least one opioid prescription.
All trends for opioid prescribing for youth are decreasing.
Thank you!

Let’s stay in touch.

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