

Overdose Spike Alert Community Response Toolkit

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND DRUG OVERDOSE PREVENTION PROGRAM



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Introduction

While overdose spikes are alarming, there are opportunities to prevent further harm. Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and Drug Overdose Prevention Program has developed this list of resources to assist local jurisdictions and other partners in responding to overdose in their communities. Visiting the resources in this toolkit, as well as promoting them to partners or the public, should help in planning and implementing responses to drug overdose and SUD issues in your community. For feedback on this toolkit or to submit additional materials or resources for consideration please email the KDHE SUD and Drug Overdose Prevention Program.

Data Resources

Data is a first step in formulating an effective response to overdose increases. This list includes the following resources to help monitor overdoses and identify high impact populations in your community.

Public Data Resources

1. Overdose Data Dashboard

This resource displays a comprehensive look at the overdose situation in Kansas through the years, and the recent increases in overdose deaths we've seen statewide. County information is also available in aggregate form. Access the Overdose Data Dashboard here.

2. Overdose Alert Analysis Project

KDHE regularly monitors syndromic surveillance data to identify unusual increases in suspected overdose emergency department visits and to alert local health departments. For more information about these analyses, visit the <u>overdose data dashboard</u>.

3. K-TRACS Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Data

Controlled substances such as prescription opioids, are tracked through the Kansas Board of Pharmacy. For public information about these substances and prescribing information in Kansas, <u>access the K-TRACS</u> <u>Dashboard</u>.

4. CDC SUDORS Data Dashboard

The State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System (SUDORS) collects information on fatal drug overdoses across the United States. Publicly available data is located on the CDC SUDORS Dashboard.

5. Kansas Behavioral Health Indicators Map

Kansas county and state-specific visualizations of data related to a series of indicators selected by the Prevention Subcommittee of the Governor's Behavioral Health Services Planning Council. Indicators include: low family attachment, depression, e-cigarette use, alcohol use, suicide rates, and marijuana use. Maps are available on the Kansas Prevention Collaborative site.

Data Resources for Local Health Departments and Partners

1. ESSENCE – Syndromic Surveillance Data

Local health departments and other organizations that meet the requirements, can obtain access to ESSENCE, the syndromic surveillance data source and tool that includes information on 98 percent of Emergency Department visits in the state. Overdose events that lead to an ED visit can be queried and analyzed to understand the demographics and keep up to date on emerging health issues in your area. Data from ESSENCE can be shared with partners when following guidelines and recommendations from the Kansas Syndromic Surveillance Program (KSSP). <u>Email KSSP here</u> to request access or technical support for your agency.

KSSP ESSENCE User Guide

2. Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program - ODMAP

ODMAP is a program where agencies can input overdose events to be displayed on a national map. Designed with First Responders in mind, this can be a resource to understanding the geography of overdose in your area in near-real time. Agencies that meet the requirements for access may utilize ODMAP for overdose data alerts based on EMS and law enforcement reports. For more information, visit the ODMAP site here.

KDHE Data Requests

If you cannot find the information you are looking for in one of the above sources, it may still be available. To inquire about additional data, please email the <u>KDHE SUD and Drug Overdose Prevention Program</u>.

SUD and Drug Overdose Information

Knowing the signs and symptoms of drug overdose, as well as substance use disorder, can be vital to helping someone get help that could save their life. Resources and education can help the general public recognize and help people with SUD's and possibly link them to care.

1. Signs and symptoms of drug overdose and/or SUD

Drug Overdose may look different depending on the drug being used. Learning about the signs and symptoms of overdose can help people know when they should call for help or potentially administer naloxone or other first aid. The following CDC resources may be helpful:

- CDC: Preventing Opioid Overdose
- CDC: Substance Use Disorders
- CDC: Understanding Treatment of Substance Use Disorders
- NIOSH: Opioids in the Workplace
- SAMHSA: Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit

2. Stigma and the Language Surrounding SUD

It is important to be precise in the language used when communicating information to partners or the public, so as not to perpetuate stigma. Stigmatizing language is thought to be a barrier to those seeking treatment and affects how others view SUD as a mental health issue. Whether you are communicating data or reaching out to people who may need connected to SUD resources, here are some suggested guidelines for using destigmatizing language.

- Substance Use Disorder rather than substance abuse or substance dependence
- Person-first language a person with substance use disorder or a person who uses drugs, rather than an addict, junkie, or drug-user

For more information about reducing stigma, visit the CDC site here.

3. Naloxone

Naloxone is a life-saving drug that can be used to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. More than one dose of naloxone may be necessary to be effective and naloxone is not effective on non-opioids, so those experiencing symptoms of overdose should continue to seek medical care even after being administered naloxone. In Kansas pharmacies, naloxone is available for purchase without a prescription. For naloxone trainings or to inquire about the availability of free naloxone kits for qualifying individuals and organizations in your area, contact the Kansas Naloxone Program of DCCCA. To find naloxone vending machine locations visit Free Naloxone Vending Machines in Kansas

For more information about naloxone, visit the CDC site here.

4. Harm Reduction

Harm reduction is a public health approach that focuses on mitigating the harmful consequences of drug use, including transmission of infectious disease and prevention of overdose, through provision of care that is intended to be free of stigma and centered on the needs of people who use drugs. Harm reduction activities in Kansas include naloxone distribution, fentanyl testing, overdose prevention and education, including safer drug use education, and other activities that can lessen the risk of adverse outcomes associated with using drugs.

- Fentanyl Test Strips Request Form -dccca.org
- Naloxone Kit Request Form dccca.org
- Free Naloxone Vending Machines in Kansas
- Harm Reduction | Overdose Prevention Strategy (hhs.gov)

Actionable Steps

Understanding the overdose data and spreading SUD/recovery awareness is great, but it is also important to develop specific community interventions with the public, stakeholders, SUD providers, schools, clinics, hospitals, first responders/law enforcement, people with lived experience of recovery, family members, and other community partners. The following list includes several action items and topics to reduce overdose deaths and help connect people with SUD to treatment.

Sectors

Sector 1. Local Health Departments

Sector 2. Providers, Prescribers, and Health Systems

Sector 3. Mental Health and SUD Providers and Clinics

Sector 4. Law Enforcement and First Responder Agencies

Sector 5. Educators

Sector 6. Coalitions, Media, and the Public

Sector 7. Resources for Youth

Sector 1. Actionable Steps for Local Health Departments:

- 1. Attend and participate in local SUD coalition and/or statewide KS Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee.
 - a. KS Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee
 - i. Contact <u>DCCCA</u> for meeting dates and invitations.

Meetings with stakeholders and other partners through coalitions and advisory committee meetings allow you to learn about and get involved in the work being done in your community as well as across the state, or to get feedback on work your agency is already taking on.

For additional coalitions, see the directory here.

2. Promote safe storage and disposal of controlled substances.

Safely storing and disposing of drugs, of all types, is important in keeping them from unintentionally getting into the wrong hands, especially in multi-person households or households with children. Consider hosting or spreading the word about drug take back events. To learn about drug disposal and to find locations for drop off in your jurisdiction, see the FDA Drug Disposal Drug Take Back Location List.

3. Develop a community response plan to the overdose epidemic.

Utilize free technical assistance from partners such as Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), and the Opioid Response Network (ORN).

The Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) is an initiative designed to enhance public health public safety collaboration and to strengthen and improve efforts to reduce drug overdoses within 21 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTAs) across 34 states.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funded the State Opioid Response / Tribal Opioid Response—Technical Assistance grant to the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry in collaboration with the Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC), Columbia University Division on Substance Use Disorders and a large national coalition. In response, this coalition, representing over 46 national organizations and 2 million stakeholders, created the **Opioid Response Network** (ORN) to provide training and address the opioid crisis. The Opioid Response Network has local consultants in all 50 states and nine territories to respond to local needs by providing free educational resources and training to states, communities and individuals in the prevention, treatment and recovery of opioid use disorders and stimulant use.

Visit the ORS site here for more information or to submit a request for technical assistance.

Integrating overdose and SUD prevention goals and strategies into Community Health Improvement Planning (CHIP) and Community Health Assessments (CHA) are another way to include this work in your jurisdiction's overall mission.

For more information about CHIPs and CHAs, see here.

- 4. Promote ODMAP to Law Enforcement and other first-responder agencies in your jurisdiction. Increasing the number of agencies that contribute data to ODMAP can help get a more complete picture of overdose events in your community. Law Enforcement, Fire/EMS, and other first responder agencies that respond to overdoses can all become ODMAP users. For information about ODMAP or to inquire about ODMAP user access for your agency, contact Midwest HIDTA.
 - Midwest HIDTA

Agencies that meet the requirements for access may utilize ODMAP for overdose data alerts based on EMS and law enforcement reports. For more information, visit the ODMAP site here.

- 5. Access to free, online training courses are available through the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center. You can gain access to these trainings through their online registration process.
 - <u>Understanding Opioids</u> (Online, asynchronous, and self-paced class)

This training discusses the epidemiology, pharmacology, diagnosis, and treatment of opioid use. Completion time is estimated at approximately 1.5 hours.

• Administering Naloxone (Online, asynchronous, and self-paced class)

This training is designed to educate first responders on how to safely administer Naloxone, an emergency medication used to reverse opioid overdoses. This guidance is crucial for enhancing the safety and efficacy of first responders in these challenging and potentially hazardous situations. Completion time is estimated at approximately 1 hour.

Free trainings through KLETC, can count towards continuing education credits.

6. Partner with local SUD recovery advocates and loved ones of people who have died of overdose to create overdose, SUD and recovery awareness observance events in your community.

Advocates from your community with lived experience can provide a unique perspective on substance use disorder and overdose.

- WIBW Overdose Awareness Day
- Fentanyl Awareness | Cooper Davis Memorial Foundation
- 7. Conduct a media campaign.

Evidence based media campaign strategies have the potential to raise awareness of treatment and recovery options and let those who are struggling with SUD know that recovery is possible. Prioritize messaging on reducing stigma, harm reduction strategies, and pathways to recovery. Utilize the data sources available for your jurisdiction to target messaging to populations most vulnerable to SUD and overdose.

KDHE has developed a social media toolkit that you can use to conduct a media campaign, or to post organically on your own social media channels.

View the Toolkit

Other Resources and Examples for Creating Media Campaigns

CDC RX Awareness Media Campaign Resources

- The Partnership @drugfreeNH Examples of Prevention Campaigns & Toolkits
- CDC Stop Overdose Media Campaigns
- Department of Health and Human Services Prevention Programs and Tools
- Department of Health and Human Services Harm Reduction Strategies
- Other Examples of Media Campaigns

8. Create a naloxone training and/or naloxone safety kit giveaway event.

Naloxone is a life-saving drug that can be used to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. In Kansas pharmacies, naloxone is available for purchase without a prescription. For naloxone trainings or to inquire about the availability of free naloxone kits for qualifying individuals and organizations in your area, contact the Kansas Naloxone Program of DCCCA.

For more information about naloxone, visit the CDC site here.

Sector 2. Actionable Steps for Providers, Prescribers, and Health Systems

- 1. Attend and participate in local SUD coalition and/or statewide KS Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee.
 - b. KS Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee
 - i. Contact <u>DCCCA</u> for meeting dates and invite

Meetings with stakeholders and other partners through coalitions and advisory committee meetings allow you to learn about and get involved in the work being done in your community as well as across the state, or to get feedback on work your agency is already taking on.

For additional coalitions, see the directory here.

2. Integrate Certified Peer Mentors (CPM) in local primary care clinics, hospitals, and emergency departments to help navigate patients with SUD and other chronic disease.

Certified Peer Mentors are people with lived experience of long-term recovery of SUD, who help develop relationships with individuals who use drugs to build trust to connect them to recovery-oriented systems of care. This emerging intervention is showing evidence of having an impact on keeping people engaged in recovery and preventing overdose or relapse.

For information about CPM training and certification please visit the KDADS site here.

3. Promote safe storage and disposal of controlled substances

Safely storing and disposing of drugs, of all types, is important in keeping them from unintentionally getting into the wrong hands; especially in multi-person households or households with children. Consider providing material about safe drug disposal or spreading the word about drug take back events. To learn about drug disposal and to find locations for drop off in your area, access the FDA Drug Disposal: Drug Take Back Location List.

- **4. Promote provider utilization of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), in KS K-TRACS** This free tool assists prescribers in following guidelines on safe opioid prescribing. Checking K-TRACS before prescribing or filling a prescription can help identify multiple provider episodes events where a patient obtains overlapping prescriptions or fills the same prescription more than once at different pharmacies. This can be used in conjunction with clinical assessments to indicate potential SUD, substance misuse, or diversion issues.
 - SAMHSA Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Guide for Healthcare Providers
 - K-TRACS Kansas Board of Pharmacy
- 5. Implement universal SUD screening to help identify and refer patients who need SUD treatment, especially medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and other medication assisted treatment (MAT).

Substance use frequently goes undetected in primary care. The primary care setting provides a major opportunity to screen for unhealthy drug use that could lead to a more detrimental SUD. The USPSTF recommends screening by asking questions about unhealthy drug use in adults age 18 or older. Providers and other helpers can assist people with SUD by treating SUD like you would any other medical condition. There are many easy-to-use, validated, brief screening tools available for use in primary care (e.g., SBIRT, MAST, DAST-10). Be aware that patients are concerned about trust, judgment and privacy when discussing SUD.

Complete online trainings offered and developed by the CDC to assist healthcare personnel and clinicians in providing patient-centered care. These online asynchronous trainings are offered as full or mini modules. Many of these trainings offer continuing education (CE).

- 2022 Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain
- Training: A Nurse's Role in Pain Management
- Training: Managing Pain and Treating Opioid Use Disorder in the ED
- Clinician Training Modules
- Addiction Medicine Toolkit
- 6. Promote Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC), who will provide MOUD (Medication for Opioid Use Disorder) and other Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) such as methadone, buprenorphine, and naltrexone as well as ACT (Assertive Community Treatment).

Medication Assisted Treatment for opioid use disorder can be effective alongside other types of treatment in regaining control over their lives and reducing the risk of overdose. View Kansas gaps in Medication Assisted Treatment providers here.

Sector 3. Actionable Steps for Mental Health and SUD Providers/Clinics

- 1. Attend and participate in local SUD coalition and/or statewide KS Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee.
 - b. KS Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee
 - i. Contact DCCCA for meeting dates and invite

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For information about CPM training and certification please visit the KDADS site here.

3. Promote safe storage and disposal of controlled substances (drug take back events, Deterra bags, etc.)

Safely storing and disposing of drugs, of all types, is important in keeping them from unintentionally getting into the wrong hands; especially in multi-person households or households with children. To learn about drug disposal and to find locations for drop off in your area, access the FDA Drug Disposal: Drug Take Back Location List.

Sector 4. Actionable Steps for Law Enforcement and First Responder Agencies

- 1. Attend and participate in local SUD coalition and/or statewide KS Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee.
 - b. KS Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee
 - i. Contact **DCCCA** for meeting dates and invite

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The Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) is an initiative designed to enhance public health public safety collaboration and to strengthen and improve efforts to reduce drug overdoses within 21 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTAs) across 34 states.

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Visit the ORS site here for more information or to submit a request for technical assistance.

Integrating overdose and SUD prevention goals and strategies into Community Health Improvement Planning (CHIP) and Community Health Assessments (CHA) are another way to include this work in your jurisdiction's overall mission.

For more information about CHIPs and CHAs, see here.

- 3. Promote ODMAP to Law Enforcement and other first-responder agencies in your jurisdiction. Increasing the number of agencies that contribute data to ODMAP can help get a more complete picture of overdose events in your community. Law Enforcement, Fire/EMS, and other first responder agencies that respond to overdoses can all become ODMAP users. For information about ODMAP or to inquire about ODMAP user access for your agency, contact Midwest HIDTA.
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Agencies that meet the requirements for access may utilize ODMAP for overdose data alerts based on EMS and law enforcement reports. For more information, visit the ODMAP site here.

- 4. KLETC Trainings Access to free, online training courses are available through the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center. You can gain access to these trainings through their online registration process.
 - Understanding Opioids (Online, asynchronous, and self-paced class)

This training discusses the epidemiology, pharmacology, diagnosis, and treatment of opioid use. Completion time is estimated at approximately 1.5 hours.

Administering Naloxone (Online, asynchronous, and self-paced class)

This training is designed to educate first responders on how to safely administer Naloxone, an emergency medication used to reverse opioid overdoses. This guidance is crucial for enhancing the safety and efficacy of first responders in these challenging and potentially hazardous situations. Completion time is estimated at approximately 1 hour.

Free trainings through KLETC, can count towards continuing education credits

5. Implement Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT)

Forming partnerships between law enforcement and mental health systems can help support communities with the goal of helping people experiencing crisis or a mental disorder to access treatment rather than processing them through the criminal justice system. These partnerships can increase safety of the individuals in crisis as well as officer safety.

For information on training or other CIT resources visit the KS Law Enforcement CIT Council here.

Sector 5. Actionable Steps for Educators

- 1. Attend and participate in local SUD coalition and/or statewide KS Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee.
 - a. KS Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee
 - i. Contact DCCCA for meeting dates and invite

Meetings with stakeholders and other partners through coalitions and advisory committee meetings allow you to learn about and get involved in the work being done in your community as well as across the state, or to get feedback on work your agency is already taking on.

For additional coalitions, see the <u>directory here</u>.

2. Conduct a media campaign.

Evidence based media campaign strategies have the potential to raise awareness of treatment and recovery options and let those who are struggling with SUD know that recovery is possible. Prioritize messaging on reducing stigma, harm reduction strategies, and pathways to recovery. Utilize the data sources available for your jurisdiction to target messaging to populations most vulnerable to SUD and overdose.

KDHE has developed a social media toolkit that you can use to conduct a media campaign, or to post organically on your own social media channels.

View the Toolkit

Resources and Examples for Creating Media Campaigns:

- CDC RX Awareness Media Campaign Resources
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- Other Examples of Media Campaigns

3. Create a naloxone training and/or naloxone safety kit giveaway event.

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4. Partner with local SUD recovery advocates and loved ones of people who have died of overdose to create overdose, SUD and recovery awareness observance events in your community.

Advocates from your community with lived experience can provide a unique perspective on substance use disorder and overdose.

- WIBW Overdose Awareness Day
- Fentanyl Awareness | Cooper Davis (cooperdavismemorialfoundation.com)
- 5. Use and promote mental health resources and suicide prevention resources for those in need
 - SAMHSA Treatment Locator
 - Kansas SUD Hotline 1-866-645-8216
 - 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, call or text 988, free and confidential support for people in distress, 24/7.
 - Agency contact information for KS state-funded SUD treatment providers and/or Certified Peer Mentors (attachment?)
 - National Helpline 1-800-662-HELP (4357) treatment and referral information 24/7.
 - Mutual support groups for people with SUD such as <u>Mid-America Region of Narcotics Anonymous</u> <u>resources</u> (in-person/on-line) and Help Line 855-732-4673; Self-Management and Recovery Training (SMART) meetings, and <u>Celebrate Recovery</u>
 - Sober living options such as Oxford House

Sector 6. Actionable Steps for Coalitions, Media, or the Public

- Attend and participate in local SUD coalition and/or statewide KS Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee.
 - a. KS Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee
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- CDC Stop Overdose Media Campaigns
- Department of Health and Human Services Prevention Programs and Tools
- Department of Health and Human Services Harm Reduction Strategies

Other Examples of Media Campaigns

7. Create a naloxone training and/or naloxone safety kit giveaway event.

Naloxone is a life-saving drug that can be used to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. In Kansas pharmacies, naloxone is available for purchase without a prescription. For naloxone trainings or to inquire about the availability of free naloxone kits for qualifying individuals and organizations in your area, contact the Kansas Naloxone Program of DCCCA.

8. Promote utilization of Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), in KS called, "K-TRACS" by providers, hospitals, primary care clinics.

This free tool assists prescribers in following guidelines on safe opioid prescribing. Checking K-TRACS before prescribing or filling a prescription can help identify multiple provider episodes – events where a patient obtains overlapping prescriptions or fills the same prescription more than once at different pharmacies. This can be used in conjunction with clinical assessments to indicate potential SUD, substance misuse, or diversion issues.

- SAMHSA Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Guide for Healthcare Providers
- K-TRACS Kansas Board of Pharmacy

Sector 7. Youth Focused Resources

1. Operation Prevention

A free, online, evidence-based educational program designed to prevent opioid misuse among youth. Access information and courses at the <u>Kansas Prevention Collaborative site.</u>

2. It Matters KS

Free media campaign materials designed for communications aimed at youth and young adults. "Data reveals most youth and young adults don't misuse these substances, even if it seems like everyone does." The messages in this campaign seek to communicate how youth can enjoy life and have positive experiences with their peers even without substance misuse. View the materials on the <u>Kansas Prevention Collaborative site</u>.

Hotlines, Treatment Services, Linkages to Care, and Other Resources

Successful ongoing recovery is possible, especially when people with SUD's are supported with linkage to care. Communicate to the public and to your stakeholders that substance use disorder can be treated, and that recovery is possible. These resources below provide access to immediate support or can be used to locate or be referred to treatment options in your area.

- Treatment Information
 - SAMHSA Treatment Locator
 - Kansas MAT Gap Map
- Kansas <u>Behavioral Health Services</u> and SUD Hotline 1-866-645-8216
- 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, call or text 988, or chat online, for free and confidential support for people in distress, 24/7.
- Agency contact information for KS state-funded SUD treatment providers and/or Certified Peer Mentors
 - o Certified Peer Mentor Certification
 - o CARELON
- SAMHSA National Helpline 1-800-662-HELP (4357) treatment and referral information 24/7.
- Mutual support groups for people with SUD
 - Mid-America Region of Narcotics Anonymous resources (in-person/on-line) and Help Line 855-732-4673
 - Self-Management and Recovery Training (SMART) meetings

- o Celebrate Recovery
- Sober living options
 - o Oxford House
- Community Toolbox
- Good Samaritan FAQ