

Overdose Fatality Review Team Meeting Minutes

Date: April 8, 2021

Attendees: Jordan Crummett, Karen Pershing, Sgt. Phil Major, Sam Lee, Candace Allen, Greg Roberts, Lauren Allard, Chris Thomas, Darinka Mileusnic, Michele Trofatter, Jennifer Tourville, Pam Leskowsyk

- Call to order and introductions
- Approval of minutes—March meeting minutes approved
- Set the agenda
- Open Meetings information
 - Public and media can attend the monthly OFR Team meetings
 - Using the chat feature or directly unmuting of participants for asking questions and discussion
- Case selection criteria
 - Current selection criteria is the age range of 25-44 years of age as primary data pool
 - Case selection criteria is based on data from TBI, the Knox County Sheriff's Office, initial search criteria suggestions, as well as information from other groups working on similar projects and reporting
- Presentation of data analysis
 - December 2020 cases
 - Areas of data discussed: basic demographics, employment and education, housing, location, evidence of administration, substances at the scene, toxicology results, bystanders present, Naloxone, mental health and suicide, Substance Use Disorder, substance use history, co-occurring disorders, criminal justice history, recent justice involvement, and current gaps in data
- Brainstorming and discussion
 - Discussion on bystanders being present but no known Naloxone administration
 - Good Samaritan law—education and awareness of it
 - MDC delivers Naloxone trainings to laypersons and addresses the Good Samaritan law during training—increased access or support of programming
 - Law enforcement has seen an increase in Naloxone administration at overdose scenes fatal and non-fatal
 - Discussion regarding bystander information and breakdown
 - Breaking it down by the distinction of a witness vs. bystander

- Possibility to ask about Naloxone administration and access information in follow-up death investigation interviews through RFC
 - Discussion on adding information about previous Emergency Department visits pertaining to substance use to data presentation—timeline of how recent a visit was
 - Increasing timeline to 6 months-1 year prior to fatal overdose
 - Suggestions:
 - Possible family/acquaintance interviews in the future with increased capacity of OFR Team
 - Addressing stigma surrounding overdose fatalities
 - Increasing information on/support of syringe service programs
 - Add to presentation information on why Naloxone was not administered at a scene and other information (access to or possession of Naloxone at the time, previous use, etc.)
 - Possibility of adding Navigators from ER/ED to the OFR Team for perspective, data, and views on current trends
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Action items: Sign and return Data Sharing Agreements, return data from this month (TBD based on timeline of OFR Coordinator position), reach out with any questions or comments regarding meeting and action items

Upcoming events: May OFR Team Meeting- May 13, 2021 at 3:00PM EST