

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON HEROIN, OPIOIDS, AND PAIN EFFORTS (HOPE COMMITTEE)

INDIAN HEALTH CARE: ENSURING A COORDINATED, HOLISTIC RESPONSE FOR PERSONS WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

OPIOID STEWARDSHIP

Advancing Opioid Stewardship: Strategies to Save Lives

Opioid Stewardship (OS) is a health-system journey that involves every level of organization. OS involves a plan to ensure all the necessary steps are taken for improved processes and patient outcomes. Effective opioid stewardship strategies emphasize leadership support, team-based care, and safe opioid prescribing practices. These strategies are action-oriented, use data to inform decisions, and ensure the patient gets the support they need. There are many pieces to an opioid stewardship plan and many people involved in making sure that plan is relevant, successful and sustained.



What Can be Done? Finding Your Role

Health system leaders
(Executive Leadership Team, Clinical Directors, "C-suite", Quality)

- Ensure doctors, nurses, and pharmacists have the resources they need to optimize care for patients suffering with chronic pain
- Promote access to treatment & recovery services
- Standardize peer review processes
- Support community engagement across the facility

All hospital and clinical staff

- Speak up! If you have an idea, share it
- Engage in workforce development activities
- Be a champion! Promote evidence-based practices

Integrated Care Teams

- Offer comprehensive and coordinated care that is patient-centered
- Build a trusted relationship through shared-decision making, co-developing goals and having a collective understanding of the patient's needs

Learn more at ihs.gov/opioids or scan the QR code now!



Opioid Stewardship: Clinical Pearls & Available Resources

IHS is committed to improving the way opioids are prescribed to promote patient access to safe, long-term, chronic pain and substance use disorder treatments that reduce the risk of prescription misuse, abuse, overdose, and diversion. Opioid stewardship is a key part of IHS's overall strategy to improve outcomes for patients diagnosed with chronic pain syndrome or opioid use disorder.

To support opioid stewardship initiatives, IHS has released numerous resources:

- ⇒ *Opioid Stewardship [Video](#)*
 - Provides a health-system overview of opioid stewardship as a key strategy to reduce opioid overdose mortality
- ⇒ *Opioid Stewardship [Automation Tool](#)*
 - Assists sites and committees with evaluation of current opioid prescribing practices
 - Facilitates discussion surrounding opportunities for improvement
 - Guides team discussions as users consider core elements of OS programs
- ⇒ *Opioid Surveillance [Dashboard \(OSD\)](#)*
 - Evaluate opioid interventions and professional practice through enhanced clinical decision support tools
 - Data will inform system-level quality improvement strategies
 - Just getting started with the OSD? Begin by reviewing site level data for co-prescribed naloxone as a key performance indicator
- ⇒ *OSD [Office Hours](#)*
 - Ask questions and understand capabilities while addressing real-world scenarios
 - Teach new techniques and discuss how to optimize dashboard data
 - Provide dashboard feedback, recommendations and enhancement requests
- ⇒ Education Outreach Program: [Pain Management Campaign](#)
 - New evidence-based pain management clinician guide, pocket-references (including opioid de-prescribing), fact sheets, and patient education are [available](#)
 - Educational [Guide](#): Managing non-cancer pain in the care of AI / AN

Team-Based Care:

Team-based care involves whole health approaches to healthy living, which is also central to opioid stewardship. They both emphasize collaborative approaches to care and support care plans that use alternatives to opioids for pain control. Taken together, opioid stewardship is a multi-faced approach to pain management and opioid use that encompasses the whole patient – their mind and body, and their preferences, experiences, needs, and goals.

Supporting
team-based
care & opioid
stewardship

- Establish adequate patient appointment time to promote positive patient relationships.
- Support open and friendly conversations about naloxone with any patient or family member who is curious or would benefit from a prescription.
- Emphasize comprehensive and culturally sensitive patient screening approaches.
- If available, connect patients to community services or substance use disorder programs.