Substance Use in Colorado

An Increasing Problem

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Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders
Interim Study Committee

July 10, 2017
About Us:

Inform State and National Policy

Contribute to Current Health Policy Discussions

Support Efforts to Improve Health

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Our Work

Health Reform and Colorado

An Analysis of the Senate's Better Care Reconciliation Act by the Colorado Health Institute's Team of Experts

JUNE 23, 2017

Top Five Colorado Impacts of the BERA

1. Colorado's 2.5 Million People Covered by Medicaid through expansion are now at risk of losing coverage. The Senate bill would result in 700,000 people losing their coverage.

2. Medicaid Family Planning would lose a large share of state and federal funds. In 2018, the state would lose $96 million.

3. Lower Middle Class Coloradans would lose help for their children's care. The Senate bill would limit the amount of available Medicaid funds to states to help. This would result in a $500 million cut to state health programs.

4. Planned Parenthood: The bill would defund Planned Parenthood and other health centers that provide services to low-income people.

5. Younger Population: The young crowd in the state would lose coverage. The Senate bill would result in 2.2 million people losing their health insurance.

Miles Away From Help

The Opioid Epidemic and Medication-Assisted Treatment in Colorado

MAY 2017

Legislation in Review

Analyzing Key Health Policy Trends

JUNE 2017
Takeaways

1. Overdose deaths in Colorado are rising, driven by an increase in opioid-related deaths.

2. The biggest gaps in treatment are related to an insufficient workforce.

3. A small percentage of spending for substance use disorder is for treatment.
Colorado Drug Overdose Death Rate, By County
2002-2014

Source: Center for Disease Control and Prevention,
National Centers for Health Statistics,
National Vital Statistics System, Mortality Data
Colorado Drug Overdose Death Rate, 2014

Legend (rate per 100,000)

Source: CHI analysis of CDC National Vital Statistics System Mortality Data
Opioids Are Driving the Rise in Overdose Deaths

All Drugs
- Percentage Increase: 152%
- Non-Opioid: 66%
- Opioid: 325%

Source: CDPHE Vital Statistics
Demographics: Opioid Overdose Deaths

- Males more likely to die of a heroin overdose than females.
- Highest death rate for heroin in the 26 to 34 age group.
- Rates for heroin and prescription drugs are highest for non-Hispanic white Coloradans.

Source: CDPHE Vital Statistics
Illicit Drug Dependence or Abuse

Coloradans who are dependent on or abused illicit drugs in the past year.

Source: 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health
Youth Illicit Drug Use Remains Stable

Percentage who used illicit drugs one or more times in their life, 2013-2015

- Methamphetamine
- Heroin
- Sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high
- Cocaine
- Ecstasy

Source: 2013 and 2015 Healthy Kids Colorado Survey
Emergency Department Visits by Drug Type, Age-Adjusted Rates, 2015 (per 100,000)

- Stimulants: 5.7
- Marijuana and Psychedelics: 8.0
- Heroin: 11.0
- Pharmaceutical Poisoning: 126.1

Data source: Emergency Department Visit Dataset, Colorado Hospital Association.
Prepared by: Office of eHealth and Data, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.
Emergency Department Visits by Drug Type

Percentage Increase, 2011 to 2015

- Stimulants: 62.1%
- Marijuana and Psychedelics: 96.6%
- Heroin: 148.1%
- Pharmaceutical Poisoning: 5.2%

Data source: Emergency Department Visit Dataset, Colorado Hospital Association.
Prepared by: Office of eHealth and Data, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.
Substance Use Care Continuum

Enhancing Health  Early Intervention  Recovery Support

Primary Prevention  Treatment

Alcohol is the Most Common Reason for Treatment

2015 Treatment Admissions by Drug

- Alcohol: 59%
- Methamphetamine: 12%
- Marijuana: 14%
- Heroin: 8%
- Cocaine: 3%
- Prescription Opioids: 3%
- Other: 1%

Source: Drug/Alcohol Coordinated Data Systems, Office of Behavioral Health, Colorado Department of Human Services
Colorado Has a Shortage of Treatment Services

Coloradoans in need of substance use treatment services who receive them. 15.7%

Source: Keystone Policy Center analysis of LinkingCare.org
Medication-Assisted Treatment Works

• Medication-Assisted Treatment – known as MAT – is an evidence-based approach to treating opioid dependence.
  • Combination of medication plus other social support services, such as counseling.

• Clinically effective by helping reduce the potential for relapse.

• Better adherence to programs than those without medication.

Barriers to Medication-Assisted Treatment

• **Patients:**
  • Stigma
  • Awareness
  • Insurance

• **Providers:**
  • Stigma
  • Reimbursement
  • Insufficient staff knowledge
  • Lack of other services such as counseling
  • Insufficient office/nursing support

Medication-Assisted Treatment Locations by County, April 2017

Source: SAMHSA treatment locator.

Source: coloradohealthinstitute.org
Ten Counties Have no Treatment Locations and High Drug Overdose Death Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Death Rate per 100,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baca</td>
<td>&gt;20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bent</td>
<td>&gt;20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear Creek</td>
<td>18.1-20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conejos</td>
<td>&gt;20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costilla</td>
<td>&gt;20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custer</td>
<td>18.1-20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta</td>
<td>&gt;20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huerfano</td>
<td>&gt;20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>&gt;20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rio Grande</td>
<td>&gt;20.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Substance Use Has a Substantial Cost to the System

- Economic burden of substance use (2015) $700 billion/year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Health Care</th>
<th>Overall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>$130 billion</td>
<td>$295 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol</td>
<td>$125 billion</td>
<td>$224 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illicit Drugs</td>
<td>$11 billion</td>
<td>$193 billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: NIDA (2015)
• Treatment of substance use disorders is effective in decreasing medical cost and substance use.

• When savings related to health care are added to savings to other systems, total savings can exceed costs by a ratio of 12:1.

Takeaways

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References
