



COLORADO CONSORTIUM

for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Robert Valuck, PhD, RPh, FNAP

Departments of Clinical Pharmacy, Epidemiology, and Family Medicine
Director, Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Presentation to the Colorado General Assembly
Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Interim Study Committee

July 30, 2019



University of Colorado
Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Office of the
Governor



Objectives

Afternoon:

- Summarize key stakeholder findings on *Harm Reduction*
- Share policy recommendations from the Consortium's perspective



University of Colorado
Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Office of the
Governor



Harm Reduction Stakeholder Recommendations

*Please review Executive Summary
and binder provided of all
submissions*



University of Colorado
Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Office of the
Governor



Common Harm Reduction Themes

- Naloxone Access
- Payment Reform
- Syringe Access Programs (SAPs)
- Housing and Treatment
- Supervised Use Sites



University of Colorado
Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Office of the
Governor



Naloxone Access

- Amend SB13-014 to extend immunity to those who use an expired naloxone kit
- Increase public awareness of naloxone
- Expand take-home naloxone programs in EDs and hospitals
- Support implementation of substance use prevention & education in local libraries (such as naloxone trainings)



Payment Reform

- Prohibit insurers from discriminating against people who fill naloxone prescriptions
- Require insurers to reimburse hospitals for naloxone distributed in hospitals to high risk individuals/families
- Eliminate co-pays for naloxone or continue to expand access to free or low-cost naloxone



Syringe Access Programs (SAPs)

- Include permissive language into statute for syringes to be sold by local pharmacies to non-prescription holders
- Scale funding for SAPs to meet statewide need
- Remove Board of Health approval as requirement for starting a SAP
- Incorporate infectious disease education into opioid response to prevent HIV, HBV, or HCV
- Fund a pilot program for SAPs to carry fentanyl testing devices (e.g. TruNarc)



Housing and Treatment

- Lower the Family Unification Program housing reqs of a residence for being free of meth residue (from 1 yr to 6 mos)
- Create and fund recovery residences that utilize a harm reduction approach
- Fund treatment programs that are compatible with a harm reduction approach
- Establish treatment-on-demand pilots for SAPs



Novel Harm Reduction Efforts

- Allow the City and County of Denver to determine how it can implement a single pilot supervised injection facility by exempting such a facility from constituting a public nuisance for the purposes of sections 16-13-303 to 16-13-306 and exempting liability for any state civil damages or criminal penalties for individuals involved in the facility as an employee volunteer, or client



*Please Review
Stakeholder
Feedback
Summary and
Complete
Submissions*



**Stakeholder Policy Feedback
July 2019**

Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Committee



University of Colorado
Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Office of the
Governor



Consortium's Specific Policy Recommendations



University of Colorado
Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Office of the
Governor



Consortium Specific Policy Recommendations

- Amend SB13-014 to extend immunity to those who use an expired naloxone kit
- Scale funding for harm reduction programs/SAPs to match need
- Require insurers to pay for hospital issued naloxone, prohibit them from discriminating on naloxone Rx
- Permissive language for syringes to be sold to non-prescription holders by local pharmacies
- Fund incinerator in CO for disposal of meds in CDPHE Take Meds Back program



Questions?

Email: robert.valuck@cuanschutz.edu

Website: www.corxconsortium.org



University of Colorado
Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

PP-NP-US-0284

Office of the
Governor

