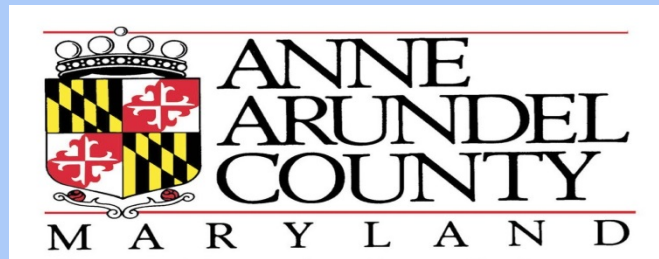


# Opioid Misuse Prevention Program (OMPP)



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# Agenda for Presentation

- Overview of qualitative data collection for the OMPP Needs Assessment by intervening variable.
- Review of the Public Opinion Poll Survey (Opioid Misuse Prevention Program) results.

# Opioid Misuse Prevention Program (OMPP) Needs Assessment

- In October 2014, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) issued a request for applications for local jurisdictions to address the opioid misuse problem through funding and the use of the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) model.
- Training and technical assistance is provided by BHA and the University of Maryland, Baltimore, School of Pharmacy.

# Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)



# Qualitative Data Collection

- Conducted 11 focus groups:
  - Including people in treatment for opioid addiction, providers of addiction treatment and law enforcement
- Conducted 19 key interviews:
  - Including pharmacists and doctors/medical practitioners

# Survey Background

- Online survey for ages 18 and over, conducted statewide, February 20 - March 15, 2015, was designed by the UMB School of Pharmacy and BHA.
- Purpose: To explore perceptions, awareness, and the use of prescription opioids and heroin in Maryland and its jurisdictions.
- Number of surveys collected in Anne Arundel County: 1,418

# Intervening Variables

- **Intervening Variables** are groups of factors that have been identified through research to influence the incidence and degree of substance misuse and its consequences.
- Changing these variables at the community level will cause changes in misuse and its outcomes.
- Opioid misuse intervening variables include: community norms, enforcement, perceived risk, retail access and social access.

# Community Norms

- The acceptability or unacceptability of certain behaviors in a community
- Norms around sharing medications
- Inappropriate use of opioid medication
- Heroin use



# Community Norms Results

- Parents misuse prescription drugs so youth think it is OK.
- Doctors and pharmacists do not discuss the dangers of inappropriate use of opioids with patients.
- There is a perception that prescription opioids are not as dangerous as heroin.
- There is a stigma associated with medically-assisted treatment.
- There is a lack of treatment options.

# Community Norms Survey Results

- 71% of respondents are concerned or very concerned about prescription opioid abuse in the communities. (79% for heroin)
- 56% of respondents know someone in their community who has used prescription opioids to get high. (50% for heroin)
- 30% admitted to ever using prescription opioids without a doctor's permission. (8% for heroin)

# Enforcement

The impact of law enforcement practices on opioid misuse consumption patterns and consequences.

- Includes the enforcement of rules, laws and policies surrounding substance abuse and its consequences.
- Also, includes public perception of the levels of enforcement and how likely people are to believe they will get caught if they violate rules, laws and policies.

# Enforcement Results

- Some areas have reported increase in patrols and surveillance due to the increase in overdose deaths.
- Shortage of officers to deal with the problem.
- Police have a lack of knowledge/training on substance abuse and community resources.
- Lack of knowledge of the Good Samaritan law and confidence in using it.
- Low number of arrests for drug possession.
- Belief that courts will not punish or implement severe penalties for drug use.

# Enforcement Survey Results

- 61% of respondents had never heard of the Good Samaritan law.

# Perceived Risk

- An individual's judgment about the characteristics and severity of risk regarding opioid misuse and its consequences.

# Perceived Risk Results

- Perception that friends sharing opioid drugs is acceptable.
- Low perception of getting arrested for possession.
- Lack of knowledge that prescription opioid misuse can lead to heroin use.
- Lack of knowledge that chronic medical conditions or injuries lead to pain management and possibly addiction.

# Perceived Risk Survey Results

- 90% of respondents reported addiction is a risk of prescription opioid abuse. 73% reported overdose is a risk and 72% reported it can lead to other drug use.
- 62% of respondents reported prescription opioids are dangerous or very dangerous.
- 51% of respondents reported prescription opioids are safer than heroin.



# Retail Access

- The accessibility of opioids from retail sources.
- Perception of ease of access.
- Geographic pockets with easy access.
- Specific prescribers, hospitals and pharmacies.

# Retail Access Results

- Doctors are overprescribing prescription opioids for pain.
- Heroin is less expensive than prescription opioids.
- Hospitals and emergency rooms are easy places to get prescription opioids.
- Lack of knowledge and training on the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program for pharmacists and doctors.

# Retail Access Survey Results

- 50% responded that getting prescription opioids from doctors was easy or very easy.
- 78% responded that prescription opioids should be stored in a locked place.
- 53% reported unused medications should be taken to a collection event.

# Social Access

- Access one has to opioids through social networks.
- Ease of access from friends/family.
- Knowledge of safe storing procedures.
- Availability of drug take back locations.

# Social Access Results

- Prescription opioids are available in homes.
- There is a lack of supervision/proper storage of prescription opioids in the home.
- Lack of knowledge of drug take-back sites or transportation to return prescription drugs.
- People get addicted to prescription opioids due to pain management for injuries.
- People get addicted to prescription opioids due to partying behaviors and associating with peers that abuse drugs.

# Social Access Survey Results

- How do people obtain prescription opioids?
  - 65% stealing from family
  - 56% drug dealers
  - 50% friends provided

# Opioid Misuse Messages

- 83% of respondents reported they have not talked to their doctors about the risks of prescription opioids.
- 76% have not seen messages concerning prescription opioids at their doctor's offices.
- 6% reported talking to their pharmacists about the dangers of prescription opioids.
- 43% of respondents do not know where to refer someone for treatment.

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# Opioid Misuse Prevention Workgroup

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- Barbara Studer-Baer, B.S.N., R.N., South County Bridges to a Drug Free Community
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- Angela Gerben, Northern Lights Against Substance Abuse Coalition
- Lauren Greulich, Pathways Student Intern



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