

Montgomery County Unintentional Drug Poisoning Coalition

November 1, 2010 Meeting Notes

East Dayton Health Center

Attending:

Gary LeRoy, MD; Gideon Adegbile, MD; Robert Carlson, PhD; Gail Chmielewski, MS; Lt. Barry Cron; Raminta Daniulaityte, PhD; Russel Falck, MA; Jim Gross, MPH; Andrea Herman, MPA; Tim Lane, MEd; Brenda Roman, MD; Willie Scales; Chris Stieritz, RPh; Monica Sutter, RN; Cathy Trame, RN, MS; Bill Wharton, MA.

Dr. LeRoy opened the meeting with introductions and restating the purpose of the coalition. The coalition examines the phenomenon of unintentional prescription drug poisoning deaths in Montgomery County, formulates and pilots appropriate responses, and makes recommendations to the Ohio Department of Health.

Dr. Raminta Daniulaityte reviewed the results of the on-line survey of physician and dentist prescribers. Survey participation (n=143) was approximately 10% of those contacted, a good rate of response compared to mail surveys. Some survey highlights: 1) Dentists who responded to the survey considered prescription drug abuse, diversion, and mortality a less significant problem than did physicians who responded; dentists also had a more positive outlook on the effectiveness of addiction treatment; 2) "More years since medical or dental school graduation" was linked to: (a) a higher (and factually less accurate) assessment of the role of cocaine and heroin as major contributors to overdose; (b) lower OARRS registration; and (c) less interest in training in pain management and prescribing controlled drugs. Full results will be posted on the WSU Prescription OD website in the near future.

Tim Lane distributed a summary of Poisoning Death Review data from the first 68 cases in 2010. He also provided data showing the demographic similarity between the entire group of 68 decedents and the 55 decedents whose toxicology reports confirmed the presence of prescription opioids.

Russel Falck reported he had just received the final batch of overdose data from the Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association (GDAHA). When analyses are completed, the results will provide the coalition with a richer view of drug overdoses in Montgomery County. He reported that there had been nearly 2500 admissions to area hospitals for drug overdoses between January 2007 and June 2010.

Tim distributed a summary of the final report of the Ohio Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force, and encouraged coalition members to visit the project web site to review the entire report.

Tim provided a handout and presented an overview of naloxone effectiveness, costs, and barriers to use. He distributed information on Ohio's Good Samaritan Law, legal and regulatory barriers to prescription naloxone distribution, and a summary of intranasal naloxone program implementation issues. A recommendation on a naloxone distribution program for Montgomery County will be made at the next meeting.

Russel provided a draft outline for the community symposium to be held in early December. A discussion followed, focusing on the content, intended target audience, and pre-symposium

publicity. The symposium is to be conducted to fulfill a contractual obligation with the Health Department. The symposium will be a broadcast live through an online stream emanating from the TV Center at Wright State in early December on a weekday evening. Viewers will have an opportunity to interact with symposium presenters through email. Following the live symposium, a link to the stored stream will be available through the WSU and PHDMC websites. A limited number of DVDs of the session will be available free of charge to those people who do not have access to a computer.

Next meeting: December 6, 2010, 3:00 pm, at the East Dayton Health Center. A number of recommendations to the Health Department on the problem of Rx drug abuse and ODs will be made at the meeting.