

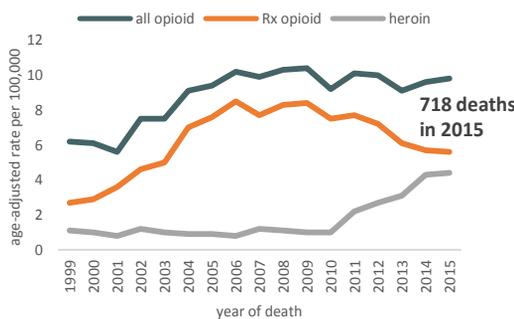
Opioid Misuse and Overdose Prevention Efforts in Washington State

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In communities across Washington state, the opioid epidemic is devastating families and overwhelming law enforcement and social services. Washington experienced more than 700 opioid related deaths in 2015.

Trends in the Rate of Opioid Overdose Deaths, Washington State 1999-2015



Source: DOH Death Certificates

We have seen a decline in prescription-related deaths in Washington state, but an increase in heroin overdose deaths. Deaths from prescription opioids are highest in the 45 to 54 year-old age group. In comparison, 25 to 34 year-olds have the highest heroin death rate.

Washington was one of the first states in the nation to develop provider guidelines for opioid prescribing. We also created a

[Statewide Opioid Response Plan](#) and expanded access to treatment for opiate use disorders and the overdose prevention drug, naloxone.

Governor Jay Inslee issued an [executive order](#) in October 2016 directing the prioritization and implementation of key elements of the *Statewide Opioid Response Plan*. The focus is on prevention, treatment, intervention, and maximizing the use of data.

Washington state agencies (*listed on the reverse side*) are carrying out this work in partnership with the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, the Department of Corrections, the Attorney General's Office, the Bree Collaborative, the hospital and medical associations, health profession board and commissions, and others.

Federal and state support for our prescription drug and overdose prevention work has been critical. Our state relies on several current grants from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and has applied for an additional SAMHSA grant allocated under the *21st Century Cures Act*, focused on access to treatment and recovery support services.

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The following are highlights of Washington State agencies' current opioid related activities, which is carried out in close collaboration with Governor Jay Inslee's office and other partners:

<p>Kathy Lofy, MD kathy.lofy@doh.wa.gov <i>State Health Officer</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Enhancing the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program by allowing providers to directly access data through their electronic medical record system and displaying aggregated prescribing data by age groups, gender and geographic region in a public data portal ❖ Expanding opioid surveillance to include emergency department and emergency medical services data to better understand the impact of this epidemic in communities ❖ Allocating general fund state HIV prevention dollars to provide sterile injection equipment for syringe service programs in Washington State
<p>Dan Lessler, MD daniel.lessler@hca.wa.gov Charissa Fotinos, MD charissa.fotinos@hca.wa.gov <i>Division of Clinical Quality and Care Transformation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Drafting an <i>Opioid Medical Policy</i> documenting authorization criteria for approving opioid treatment based on best practices ❖ Analyzing opioid usage from the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and Medicaid claims files and performing outreach to providers and the managed care organization plans regarding high utilizers and prescribers ❖ Supporting the UW Medicine Telepain Program and the Pharmacy Pain Hotline, along with the Governor's Office, as a resource to providers
<p>Gary Franklin, MD gary.franklin@lni.wa.gov <i>Medical Director</i> Jaymie Mai, PharmD maj235@lni.wa.gov <i>Pharmacy Manager</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Analyzing a collaborative care model for chronic pain and behavioral health in the workers' compensation program ❖ Educating health care providers on <u>Agency Medical Directors' Group Opioid Guidelines</u> and <u>CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain</u> ❖ Working with the Bree Collaborative and other partners such as the medical and hospital associations' <i>Opioid Task Force</i> and dental stakeholders in developing recommendations on prescribing opioids for acute pain and circulating recommendations to clinical partners and associations
<p>Caleb Banta-Green, PhD calebbg@uw.edu</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Providing technical assistance on how to design, implement, and evaluate opioid safety and overdose interventions including naloxone, public education, clinical practices, and practical assistance ❖ Serving as the primary contractor working through health agencies who sponsor syringe exchange programs to engage opiate users in overdose education, training and utilization of naloxone via a SAMHSA Grant secured by the Department of Social and Health Services
<p>Michael Langer michael.langer@dshs.wa.gov <i>Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Leading work on a multi-agency communications strategy to prevent opioid misuse in communities, with a focus on youth and parents ❖ Expanding access to suboxone at methadone clinics and Harborview Medical Center by offering additional staff support to the prescribers via a SAMHSA Grant ❖ In collaboration with UW ADAI, providing naloxone to lay and professional first responders in four high needs areas in Washington State ❖ Working with the Health Care Authority to continue to expand access to opioid use disorder treatment through traditional counseling, methadone clinics and primary care Medication Assistance Treatment prescriptions