

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Safe Disposal Work Group Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2018 – School of Pharmacy & by Teleconference

Present:

Sunny Linnebur, Co-chair, University of Colorado School of Pharmacy
Greg Fabisiak, Co-chair, CDPHE
Beverly Hanstrom, Colorado Medical Waste
Adrian Pascual, COS Vista
Gina Olberding, Consortium
Susanna Cooper, Consortium
Tyler Payne, Consortium
Michael Davidson, Consortium
Rosemarie MacDowell, Consortium

Absent:

Kathryn Stewart, CDPHE; Alan Miller, Omnicare; Karen Price, Good Day Pharmacy; Kelli Metz, UC Denver; Doc Nyiro, Waste Management of Colorado; Jeff Harnsberger, Genoa; Daniel Goetz, CDPHE; John Bender, MD, Colorado Medical Society; Kathryn Stewart, CDPHE; Scott Sickafoose, Arapahoe County Sheriff; Joe Frank, MD, University of Colorado School of Medicine; Selin Hoboy, Stericycle, Inc.; Terry Brenton, Stericycle, Inc.; Jeff Woodhouse, Pharmaceutical Research & Manufacturers of America; Rep. Dianne Primavera, Colorado House of Representatives; Melanie Snyder, Attorney General's Office; Katie Sullivan, PhD Student, University of Colorado School of Pharmacy; Al Garcia, USEPA, Region 8; Jace Driver, CDPHE; Erin Baurle, Jefferson Center for Mental Health; Sarah Swan, BMS; Kavitha Kailasam, Rise Above Colorado; Randy Knutsen, University of Colorado School of Pharmacy; Debbie Trever, Boulder County; Craig McCarty, MD; Alyssa Moore, RN; Laurrie Lorenso, Pharmacy Student; Grady Harlow, RMHIDTA; Rob Valuck, University of Colorado School of Pharmacy; Lindsey Kato, Health Management Associates; Quig Li, San Diego State University; Zach Urban, Wheat Ridge City Council; Alice Casey, Pickens Technical College; Ashley Hill, Region 17 Health Connector; Matthew Hess, Colorado AHEC Program Office; Erin Ferries, Humana; Mary Steiner, Community Health Partnership; David Ternus, Walgreens; Erika Alexander, Genoa Healthcare; Jessica Eaddy, Consortium; Jamie Feld, Boulder County Health; Jen Place, Consortium; Whit Oyler, Consortium

Co-Chair Greg Fabisiak called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the May 2018 meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Household Medication Take-Back Program Update:

121 sites are now enrolled in the Take-Back Program. Two additional counties have been added: Archuleta County (Pagosa Springs Medical Center) and Lincoln County (Hoffman Drug in Limon).

Remaining counties without dropboxes include Park, Dolores, Mineral, Baca, Huerfano, and Kiowa. There is a community clinic in Dolores County that may come on board as well as a pharmacy in Kiowa County. Children's Hospital, Rangely Community Clinic pharmacy, Blue Spruce Pharmacy in Lakewood (a Jeffco Mental Health facility) are recent enrollees. Through the end of July, the program collected approximately 35,000 pounds of medications.

Public Awareness Activities:

65+ Task Force Campaign: The 65+ Task Force initiative is moving forward. The program will attempt to engage seniors in three target communities: San Luis Valley, Pueblo, and Delta/Montrose. Materials will be distributed to seniors in different settings to increase their awareness of safe use, storage, and disposal of medications in their communities. Webb Strategic is producing the materials (posters, rack cards for distribution at community and senior living centers, magnets, mirror clings, tray liners for cafeterias, PSA scripts for local radio stations). Area agencies on aging and public health agencies are also involved in disseminating information. This is a pilot program that will serve as a model that might be launched in other areas of the state.

Boulder Rotary Pharmacy Flyers: The Boulder Rotary would like to produce their own promotional brochure for distribution to pharmacies in the Boulder area. Greg told them he would obtain the work group's approval for this promotional effort, which could also be duplicated by other rotary organizations throughout the state. Greg would like the TakeMedsBack logo to appear on any promotional materials developed by the rotary organizations.

Susanna Cooper mentioned that Summit County has a similar program. The TakeMedsBack logo may have appeared on the brochures. Work group members agreed that any local messaging should be consistent with the state program messaging; targeted pharmacies should be screened, as some of them are already involved in the state program. Walgreens has their own program.

Sunny Linnebur also recommended maintaining awareness of the political implications involved in partnering with one chain pharmacy over another. Independent pharmacies would not have this issue.

Michael Davidson suggested leaving a blank space on the brochures for labels, as labels would be easier to update. The entire brochure would not have to be reprinted. Michael will coordinate the brochure production with Greg to make sure the messaging is consistent.

AARP Colorado Webinar: Greg and Jessica Eaddy will be conducting a webinar for Colorado AARP members on September 12th. Greg will be discussing the Take-Back Program; Jessica will focus on Narcan.

Sharps Collection Opportunities:

Greg introduced Beverly Hanstrom, CEO of Colorado Medical Waste. Beverly is also on the National Stewardship Action Council Advisory Board. Colorado Medical Waste collects, transports, and treats medical waste, including sharps. They provide waste and sharps containers as well as liners. They also

provide a walk-in disposal program. Sharps can be placed in a No. 2 container (with a screw top). The disposal process utilizes ozone sterilization and a shredding process to reduce volume. They will also accept other containers and transfer the contents to a biohazard container. The company is located approximately 15 minutes from the Denver airport. People often drop off their waste on the way to the airport. Beverly explained at length the various processes involved in the sharps collection and disposal. Sharps discarded in streets and parks are collected by a city contractor.

Beverly mentioned that seniors typically do not use computers, preferring to obtain their information by phone or from the newspaper.

Beverly also informed work group members of other options available, such as stainless steel disposal containers in areas where people congregate. She explained the safety features and the configuration of the sharps containers. Colorado Medical Waste also has a mailback program and provides the packaging for this option.

The work group also discussed the following:

- Possible pilot programs for seniors.
- Possible legislative funding for collection pilot programs. Greg discussed the objectives mentioned in the Interim Study Committee regarding citizen access to sharps disposal programs and the possible changes to the statutes that might be required.
- Setting up a pilot at the UC campus during the next DEA take-back event to include sharps disposal. The Consortium could assist with advertising.
- Educational programs for clinicians that currently do not address medical waste (except for lab employees).
- The paucity of information available at pharmacies regarding sharps disposal.
- Medical waste that is thrown into recycling and the need for public education.
- Chemotherapy waste and how it is handled.
- Recent legislation in California holding pharmaceutical companies responsible for collection and disposal.
- Consortium members may set up a tour of Colorado Medical Waste facilities.
- The TakeMedsBack program will consider linking to the Colorado Medical Waste website "services" section.
- Greg discussed the CDPHE hospice portal directed to hospice organizations that could also include the TakeMedsBack program to inform surviving families about medication disposal.
- Hospice regulations related to medical waste, including sharps.

Consortium Annual Meeting:

Gina Olberding briefly discussed the upcoming annual meeting on October 25th and suggested that Beverly might be interested in attending.

Adjournment/Next Meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The next work group meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 13th from 10-11:30 a.m.