



Provider Education

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Community health care providers, including behavioral health providers, are key partners in combating the opioid crisis.

Ensuring that these providers are connected and properly trained is one way to limit unnecessary access to opioids and ensure that individuals with a substance use disorder are connected to the appropriate resources.

In this chapter, you will find information about provider education resources available in Colorado. These resources are intended for providers in general or are more specific to prescribers such as doctors, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, dentists, and veterinarians. Much of this information is written for people who have received medical training and therefore might not be accessible to a general audience or well-suited for public awareness campaigns and events. If your organization is interested in resources for the wider public, please consult the Public Awareness chapter. Use this chapter if your community:

- Is interested in providing educational resources to providers and health care teams in your area;
- Has providers excited to engage in preventing prescription drug abuse but are unsure of what to do;
- Is trying to strengthen connections to the providers in your community; and/or
- Is in need of additional medication-assisted treatment (MAT) providers.

We have included information about the Consortium's Provider Education Work Group, which helps coordinate provider education events and can partner with your community for provider education events. While we primarily focus on medical providers (physicians, NPs/PAs, nurses, pharmacists, etc.), trainings are also open to a variety of health care team members including dentists, veterinarians, acupuncturists, physical therapists, mental and behavioral health providers, medical assistants, and others. See the definition of providers below.

Glossary

Buprenorphine Waiver Training

A training available to physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants in order to provide them with a Drug Enforcement Agency waiver to prescribe buprenorphine for the treatment of opioid use disorders.

COPIC Point

A credit that prescribers may use to decrease the cost of their liability insurance if they are insured by COPIC.

CME

Continuing medical education

Providers

Prescribers (doctors, physician assistants, dentists, nurse practitioners, veterinarians, etc.), pharmacists, behavioral health treatment providers (counselors, social workers, psychologists), nurses, and others that provide health services directly to patients and clients.

Resources

Colorado has many valuable provider education opportunities available in a variety of formats. The organizations listed below partner with the Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention. Together they provide resources to health care providers across the state on topics related to chronic pain management, safe opioid prescribing, and substance use disorder.

Links to valuable resources can be found on the Consortium's provider education resources page at www.corxconsortium.org/providereducation.

Current training resources focus on:

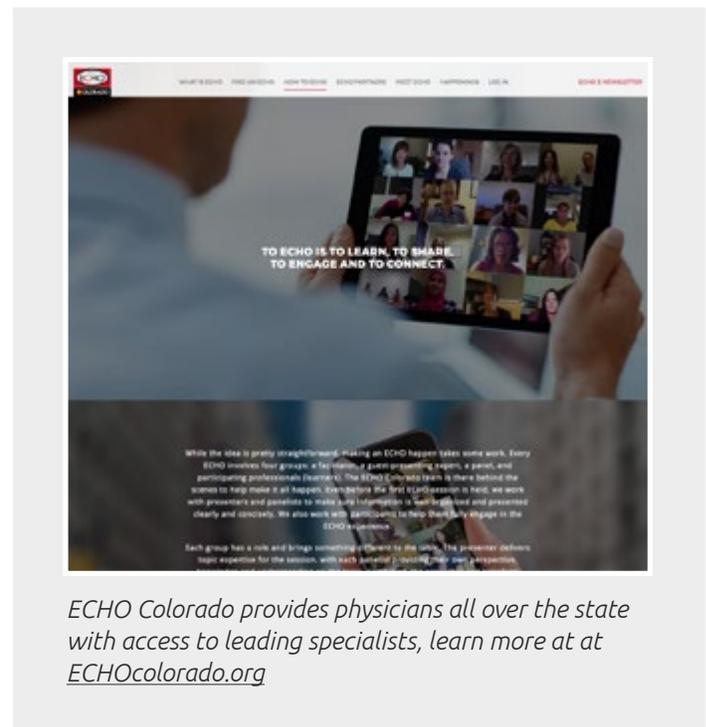
- what the opioid crisis is
- what part providers play in addressing the crisis
- how to safely prescribe opioids
- prescribing alternatives to opioids
- how to identify opioid use disorder
- how to provide medication-assisted treatment (MAT)

Online Learning Opportunities

The Center for Health, Work and Environment

Housed in the Colorado School of Public Health, the Center for Health, Work and Environment (CHWE) has collaborated with the Consortium to create several online modules related to safe opioid prescribing for pain. These modules are between one and two hours long. In 2019, CHWE is partnering with the Consortium and the Colorado Pain Society to develop more than ten additional online modules related to treating pain. Please visit bit.ly/2uJTnaS for more information.

ECHO (Extension for Community Health Outcomes) Colorado



ECHO Colorado provides physicians all over the state with access to leading specialists, learn more at ECHOcolorado.org

As a part of the national Project ECHO network, ECHO Colorado provides physicians all over the state with access to leading specialists in a variety of areas of expertise, including medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorders. ECHO sessions combine the interactive learning and case-based sharing aspects of an in-person training with the improved access and convenience of connecting through an audio- and video-based online experience. Please visit ECHOcolorado.org.

In-Person Learning Opportunities

The Colorado Opioid Epidemic Symposium (COES)

This evidence-based training is a collaboration between the North Colorado Health Alliance and the Consortium. The Consortium will assist your organization in hosting training events that focus on a variety of topics, including first-line, non-opioid pain treatments, how to safely prescribe opioids according to the CDC prescribing guidelines, weaning and discontinuation of opioids for

chronic pain patients, and an introduction to MAT for Opioid Use Disorder. These events are typically three hours, equivalent to 2.0 CME credits, but can be up to a full day. Eligible attendees may also receive one COPIC point upon completion. The following table shows the COES topic areas that are currently approved for CME. Each topic is equivalent to .5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

For audiences interested in:	Non-opioid pain management	Intro to opioids	Addiction treatment	Other
Talks would include:	Acupuncture	Benzodiazepines Overview (Benzos: Boon or Blunder)	Introduction to Counseling & Recovery	Co-Occurring Trauma and Addiction*
	Behavioral Aspects of pain*	Clinical Pearls for Safe Opioid Prescribing (Safe prescribing 101 and 201)	Introduction to Medication-Assisted Treatment	Laws and Regulations
		Patient assessment*	Introduction to Opioid Use Disorder	Post-Partum Women and Substances (Lactation and Substances)*
	Cannabis for Pain Management	Pragmatic Opioid Reduction Strategies	Medication-Assisted Treatment for Alcohol Use Disorder	Safe Discharge Planning for Women*
	Non-Pharmacologic Pain Management	Tools for Safe Opioid Prescribing (Project ECHO overview)	Motivational interviewing	Women and Substance Use Disorder*
	Pain Procedures	Urine Toxicology	Pain Management and Addiction: Common Threads (Integrated Care in Addiction Treatment)	
	Physical Therapy for Pain Management	Weaning and Discontinuation	Treatment Best Practices/Treatment Innovations	
	The Role of Pharmacy in Pain			

*Coming soon in 2019

IT MATTTRS 2



IT MATTTRS 2 is a program that supports implementation of medication-assisted treatment in primary care practices by providing facilitated education sessions. Learn more at www.practiceinnovationco.org/itmatttrs2/

The University of Colorado School of Medicine and the High Plains Research Team have created IT MATTTRS 2, a program that supports implementation of medication-assisted treatment in primary care practices by providing facilitated education sessions for prescribers and their care teams, utilizing a curriculum that emphasizes a team-based approach. The training is either in-person or a hybrid of in-person or online. For more information, please visit www.practiceinnovationco.org/itmatttrs2.

IT MATTTRS 2 Practice Training

In addition to the individual prescriber opportunities, the University of Colorado School of Medicine and the High Plains Research Team created a program aimed at increasing access to buprenorphine-based medication-assisted treatment in rural Colorado communities. Rural areas have fewer resources to treat individuals with opioid use disorder, and IT MATTTRS 2 engages community representatives to increase awareness and reduce stigma through public messaging campaigns while improving access to treatment. For more information, please visit www.practiceinnovationco.org/itmatttrs2.

The Center for Personalized Education for Physicians (CPEP)

CPEP offers a deep dive into a variety of relevant topics through multi-day events and personalized instruction. Please visit www.CPEPdoc.org.



Other Community Resources

ECHO New Mexico

This program is also part of the national Project ECHO network and provides physicians all over the state with access to leading specialists in a variety of areas, including safe prescribing. The format is similar to that of ECHO Colorado. Their ECHO Pain section focuses on chronic pain and opioid management. Please visit www.echo.unm.edu/collaboratives/opioid.

Pain Net

This program is sponsored by Connecticut ECHO and provides discussion forums and evidence-based resources for providers to build their knowledge and confidence in treating chronic pain. Please visit painnet.net.

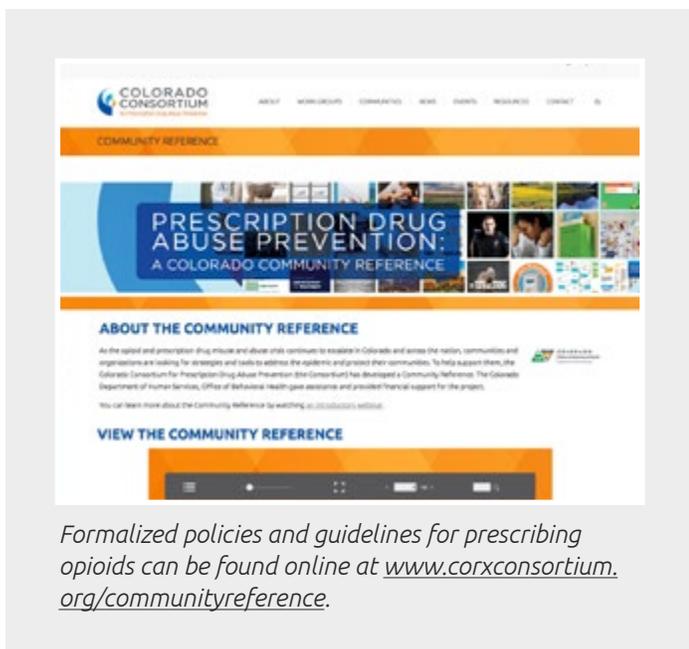
Providers' Clinical Support System (PCSS)

PCSS offers training and support to clinicians across the nation. This includes educational modules, webinars, and clinical mentoring opportunities. Resources about MAT and opioid therapies are available. To learn about their MAT offerings or information about their opioid therapies offerings, please visit pcss-o.org.

American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)

ASAM has an e-Learning center and offers live online CME trainings. Topics include how to treat co-occurring pain and substance use disorders, when to prescribe opioids, and what physicians need to know to obtain the waiver to prescribe buprenorphine. Please visit www.asam.org/education. For the Colorado Chapter of ASAM, please visit www.asam.org/membership/state-chapters/list/colorado.

Guidelines



Formalized policies and guidelines for prescribing opioids can be found online at www.corxconsortium.org/communityreference.

Other state and federal agencies have formalized their policies and guidelines for prescribing opioids. Find them online at www.corxconsortium.org/communityreference.

The Consortium's Provider Education Work Group

The Provider Education Work Group focuses on issues relating to improving the education and training of health care professionals who prescribe, dispense, or otherwise provide care for those receiving prescription medications with the potential for misuse, abuse, or diversion. The work group's goals are to increase access and number of educational trainings/topic areas for Colorado prescribers; increase the number of providers reporting changes in practice behavior related to opioid prescribing and/or medication assisted treatment; and provide high quality education around all aspects of opioid prescribing.

If you have an interest in this area or have questions about this topic, reach out to the program manager at pm@corxconsortium.org. If you would like to join or get more information about the work group, please visit www.corxconsortium.org/provider-education-work-group. You can also join by emailing info@corxconsortium.org.

Provider Education Work Group Co-Chairs

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