In 2014, drugs and medications—prescription drugs, illicit drugs, and over-the-counter medications—were the underlying cause of death for 81% of all poisoning deaths. Of all drug overdose deaths, 74% were unintentional¹.

In 2014, Nebraska’s drug overdose age-adjusted death rate was 7.9 per 100,000 up from 3.6 per 100,000 people in 2004¹. The U.S. age-adjusted drug overdose death rate per 100,000 people was 14.7 in 2014 and 9.3 in 2004².

13th lowest state in rate (4.18) of non-medical use of prescription painkillers³ (2010-2011).

Nebraska Drug Overdose Health Burden


Nebraska Drug and Opioid Related Overdose Fatalities, 2005-2015*
Figure: Unspecified Drugs Indicated Compared to All Drug Overdose Deaths, Nebraska Residents, 2005-2015*

Data source: Nebraska Vital Records

*2015 Data is preliminary. Extracted 09/02/2016

Nebraska PDMP History

PDMP Legislative Timeline

- LB 237 (2011) – authorized the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to collaborate with NeHiII to establish a prescription drug monitoring program.

- LB 1072 (2014) – allowed for state funds, grants, gifts or other funds to be used to implement the PDMP.

- LB 471 (2016) – enhanced our current system to significantly increase functionality and mandates daily reporting by dispenser

* Covered more in depth by the next presenter
DHHS Grant Awards

Harold Rogers Grant – DOJ Bureau of Justice Assistance
- 2 years of funding – $500,000
- Goal – to implement and enhance the PDMP system with a new innovative approach.
- Nebraska PDMP housed in the Health Information Exchange (HIE)
  - Providers have the benefit of medical records and medication history housed in a common location
- Primary effort to enhance the system and increase provider access and use of the Nebraska PDMP – primary support of training efforts

Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention for States Grant (PDO PfS) – CDC
- 4 years of funding – just over $3 million
- Goal – to develop and implement pain management guidelines, enhance and maximize the NE PDMP system and increase provider and patient education
- Collaboration with:
  - Nebraska Medical Association
  - Nebraska Pharmacists Association
  - Nebraska Hospital Association
  - Nebraska Health Information Initiative
  - Nebraska Professional Boards
PDO PfS Grant Strategies

1. Enhance and maximize the Nebraska PDMP
   - Increase access and use of the PDMP by medical professionals
   - Utilize the PDMP data for public health surveillance
2. Develop and encourage statewide uptake of pain management guidelines
3. Conduct needs assessment and educate on expanded access to Naloxone

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