

TITLE: Envisioning the future of overdose prevention with public health and public safety partnerships in Oregon-Idaho HIDTA

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STUDENT SUBMISSION: Yes

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Public health and public safety professionals; policy makers; state, county and municipal administrators; and applied researchers

ABSTRACT: Background: In collaboration with the 16-county Oregon-Idaho High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), Oregon State University Center for Health Innovation is conducting a county-by-county needs assessment to combat drug overdoses and their associated harms. Purpose: The needs assessment has 3 aims: (1) to understand current public health (PH) and public safety (PS) overdose reduction efforts in the 16-county Oregon-Idaho HIDTA area; (2) to identify future opportunities, barriers, and needs for collaborative efforts; (3) to identify feasible and relevant community-level interventions to reduce and prevent overdoses. Ultimately, the project will craft a collaborative blueprint for PH/PS partnerships to follow. Methods: We are currently conducting semi-structured, key informant interviews with public safety and public health professionals in 66 partner organizations. Transcribed interviews will be analyzed using a deductive thematic approach to identify current overdose reduction strategies and gauge interest in future community-level strategies. Results: Interviews have been conducted with partners in 12 counties; data collection will conclude by August, 2020. Preliminary findings suggest the need for establishing or strengthening communication and data flow sharing between public health and public safety. Implications: Findings will provide insights on current overdose reduction and prevention efforts, and should point to opportunities and threats to feasible future interventions for PH/PS partners.

OBJECTIVE(S): Discuss: Learners will discuss evidence-based practices for PH/PS partners working to collaboratively combat overdoses and associated harms Identify: Learners will be able to identify community-level partnership opportunities across the 16-county Oregon-Idaho HIDTA region to combat overdoses and associated harms.
