# **Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention**

Prescriber & Provider Work Group Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2023 via Zoom

#### Present:

Josh Blum, MD, Co-chair Scott Bainbridge, MD Liz Krische, Mental Health Partners Rachel Linger, Rocky Vista University Elizabeth Grace, MD, CPEP Shira Butler, Lin Health Medical Group Stephanie Salkin, BHA

Consortium: Jose Esquibel, Gina Olberding, Jessica Eaddy, Shayna Micucci, Lindsey Simbeye,

Jennifer Mackender, Eric Barker, Rosemarie MacDowell

Absent: See attached list.

Co-chair, Josh Blum, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

## **Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made to approve the March 2023 work group meeting minutes. Motion approved.

## Fall Conference Update (Josh Blum):

The work group typically holds an annual education symposium in the fall in conjunction with the Consortium Annual Meeting. For this year's educational symposium, the work group plans to partner with the Colorado Pain Society for an in-person/virtual event to be held during the CPS Annual Conference October 13-15, 2023. The last several symposia have addressed opioid prescribing; this year will focus again on pain management. The symposium will be held on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Other topics that will be discussed during the CPS conference include cancer pain management, central sensitization, neuroplasticity, neuropathic pain treatment, and the CDC's updated opioid guidelines. A lecture on headache management may also be planned.

## **Xylazine Update (Jose Esquibel):**

RMHIDTA has confirmed the presence of xylazine in Boulder and El Paso counties. There have been several cases reported in Denver. Harm reduction partners are preparing the workforce on the effects of this drug, including establishing best practices for wound care, increased distribution of test strips, and continued use of naloxone when necessary. Providers need to be informed of xylazine withdrawal symptoms such as agitation, tachycardia, and hypertension, which can overlap with opioid withdrawal symptoms as well as the drugs to treat the withdrawal symptoms.

There will be a xylazine lunch and learn session on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Jessica Eaddy and Shayna Micucci have been working on a resource list that includes withdrawal management information. Jessica provided an update of other upcoming lunch and learn sessions and a link to the presentation "Psychedelics as Emerging Treatments for SUDs" and "Psychedelics in Health Care".

## https://corxconsortium.org/resources/cme/

#### https://vimeo.com/811465477?share=copy

Future provider education includes a session on treating chronic pain among dental patients. Jose suggested DORA could help distribute information about this upcoming session.

# **Provider Education CME Training Evaluation (Jessica Eaddy):**

An evaluation of education offerings from July 2020 through April 2023 is being conducted to determine which modules were most popular and relevant for the largest number of providers. The modules are accessible online. The analysis is intended to determine the impact of the educational courses as well as identifying reach, gaps, and potential improvements.

Jose Esquibel was contacted by Diane Matt, Executive Director of the Colorado Veterinarian Society. They are interested in developing a training module with the Consortium for veterinarians who prescribe opioids. They would also like to put together a training video that would include short section about the PDMP and the opioid crises in Colorado. If Rob Valuck is unable to work on the video, a backup speaker will need to be found.

## **Member Updates:**

Rachel Linger, Rocky Vista University: The university offered an elective course for osteopathic medical students that explored integrated pain management and how it integrates with prevention and treatment of substance use disorders. Both pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic treatment was discussed. The course included real patient cases in the form of videos and how some cases led to substance use disorders. The course will be offered again in the future. Rachel is looking for speakers for an alumni event in July.

Shira Butler, Lin Health Medical Group: Her organization is involved in educating providers about alternative approaches to pain management. Josh and Shira will discuss the medical group's services offline.

The Benzodiazepine Action Work Group will be conducting a COPA approved training course in June for peer recovery coaches seeking certification or CEUs. For information: Shayna.micucci@cuanschutz.edu

Salkin, BHA: Funding applications now require the submittal of a naloxone saturation plan.

#### **Adjournment and Next Meeting:**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m. The next work group meeting will be held on Thursday, July 20, 2023 from noon to 1 p.m. via Zoom.

Attachment: Work group roster